

A Compleat  
COLLECTION  
OF REMARKABLE  
TRYALS  
Of the most Notorious  
MALEFACTORS,

AT THE  
SESSIONS-HOUSE in the *Old Bailey*,  
for near Fifty Years past ;

For the CRIMES following, *Viz.*

Murthers,  
Highway-Robbing,  
Pyracy,  
House Breaking,  
Foot-Padding,  
Rapes,  
Sodomy,  
Bestiality,  
Polygamy,



Fortune-Stealing,  
Trepanning,  
Kidnapping,  
Shop-Lifting,  
Perjury,  
Counterfeiting the  
Coin, Exchequer-  
Bills, Bank-Notes,  
Stamps, &c.

Together with

A particular Account of their Behaviour under  
Sentence of Death, and Dying-Speeches  
Faithfully Collected from the Books of Tryals, and  
Papers of *Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Allen*, *Mr. Wikes*, and  
*Mr. Lorrain*, Ordinaries of *Newgate*, from the first  
Printing of them down to this present Time :  
And from other Authentick Narratives.

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L O N D O N :

Printed for *J. Phillips* ; and Sold by *J. Brotherton*  
and *W. Meadows* at the *Black Bull* in *Cornhill*, and  
*J. Roberts* in *Warwick-Lane*. 1718.

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W. Musgrave.



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THE  
LIFE, TRYAL, &c.  
OF  
Capt. *Brent*, &c.



Aptain JOHN BRENT, *Michael Hicks, Arnolt Viele, John Barret, Robert English, Joseph Wheeler, Thomas Bagley and William Gould*, were indicted at the *Old Baily* the 13th of July 1702, for Pyracy committed on the High Sea the 28th of September 1689, on a *Moorish Ship* called the *Great Mahomet*. *Michael Hicks, Arnold Viele, John Barret, Robert English and Thomas Bagley* plead-

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pleaded Guilty; but *John Brent*, *Joseph Wheeler*, and *William Gould* put themselves upon their Tryal.

The Evidence against them were *Capt. Culliford*, one *Palmer* and *Brown*, who deposed, That about seven Leagues from the Island of *St. John* in the *East Indies*, upon the High Sea, they did take a *Moorish* Ship called the *Great Mahomet*, the Ship and Apparel valued at 2000 l. 200 lb. weight of Dragons Blood, 100 lb. weight of Saffron, 200 lb. weight of Cochineal, 4000 Ounces of Silver, 8000 Rix Dollars, 200 Bars of Gold, 40 Ounces of Gold Dust, 10000 Chequins, 4000 other Pieces of Gold, 30000 Dollars, 100000 Pieces of Eight, and divers other Goods to a great Value. But *Brent*, who was thought the greatest Offender, making it appear, that he was neither a Projector nor Actor in that Affair, tho he took his Share of the Money; and the others making it appear that they were under great Confinement, and durst not declare their Abhorrence of such an Undertaking, and calling several Persons to their Reputation, the Jury acquitted them.

At the same Time were indicted *John Weir*, *Arnolt Vielo*, and *Richard Roper*, for a Piracy committed on the High Sea

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the



Capt. John Brent, &c. 3

the 30th of January 1688, on the Ship *Queda Merchant*. To this Indictment *Viele* and *Roper* pleaded Guilty, but *John Weir* put himself upon his Tryal. The Evidences against him were Capt. *Culliford*, *Palmer* and *Brown*, who deposed that they set sail from *Plimouth* in the *Adventure Gally*, whereof *William Kid* was Captain; and that being about ten Leagues distant from *Cutcheen* in the *East Indies*, they did Pyratically take a Ship called the *Queda Merchant*, the Ship and Apparel valued at 400 *l.* 70 Chests of Opium, value 1000 *l.* and divers other Goods to a great Value. The Prisoner did acknowledge that he was on board one of the Pyrates Ships called the *November* when the Fact was committed, and that he had 200 Pieces of Eight for his Share; but alledg'd that when he went out with Capt. *Kid* he did not think he would turn Pyrate, but when they came to the *East Indies* he was constrained to act with them, for fear of being put on Shore on some Island not inhabited, or being thrown over board, and insisted that he did come in and surrender himself, as soon as he got from them, to the Governour of *Carolina*, eighteen Months before he was sent over as a Prisoner. And the

#### 4 *The Tryal, &c. of*

Evidences against him not denying but that it was dangerous to refuse taking a Share, the Jury thereupon acquitted him; and *Arnolt Viele* and *Richard Roper* received Sentence of Death.

They were a second time indicted for Pyratically Taking a *Moorish* Ship about four Leagues from *Calicut* in the *East Indies*, the Ship and Apparel value 50 l. 11 Bails of Cotton, 2 Horses, and other Goods. To which Indictment *Viele* and *Roper* pleaded Guilty. But *John Wier* put himself upon his Tryal, and his Defence being much as before, he was acquitted.

*John Ireland* and *Thomas Hickman* were indicted for two Pyracies, the first for Taking and Robbing a *Moorish* Ship about eight Leagues distant from the Island of *Ceilon*, in the *East Indies*, on the 19th of *December* 1687, and the Ship and Apparel valued at 1000 l. 200 Bags of Dammar, 200 Bails of Rice, with divers other Goods; The second, for Robbing a *Portugal* Ship called the *Loretto*, on the 30th of *December* 1687, about ten Leagues distant from *Cape Comerin* in the *East Indies*, and the Ship and Apparel value 500 l. 14 Bails of Silk, value 6000 l. and 64 lb. weight of *China* Gold, value 6000 l. and divers other

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*Capt. John Brent, &c.* 3

ther Goods to a great Value. The Evidence deposed that they came to a Parcel of Islands in *Sumatra*, and from thence to *Merga* in the King of *Siam's* Country, and so to *Nicamber*, where they met another Ship called the *Charming Mary*, and they knew one another, and agreed to sail together, which they did; and meeting with the *Moorish Ship*, whereof one *William Webb* an *Englishman* was Commander, they took her, plunder'd her, and sunk her, and made *William Webb* their Pilot, and afterwards took the *Portuguese Ship* with the *China Gold*, which was all in Lumps, and the Silk which was richly flowered with Gold, and shared the Money. They were positive that *Ireland* and *Hickman* were there. The Prisoners had little to say in their Defence; the Jury found them Guilty, and they receiv'd Sentence of Death.

*Capt. Roger Wells* was indicted for a Murder committed on *James Cross* the 28th of *June*, in the 10th Year of King *William*. The Evidence *Francis Hind* and others deposed, That being twenty Leagues from *Cape Verde* in *Africa*, the said *Capt. Wells* did, with a *Guinea Cane*, beat, strike and bruise the said *James Cross* in such manner, that he languish'd

## 6      *The Tryal, &c. of*

till the 30th and then died. The Captain alledg'd, that Water was so scarce that each Man was allow'd but a Quart a Day, then they came to a Pint, and at last but half a Pint; therefore he seeing that the Deceased was making Waste of that which was so necessary at such a time, he could do no less than correct him for it, and the rather in that he being a Boatswain gave an ill Example to others, but that he had not any Design upon his Life, and that the Deceased died rather of a Distemper than of the Blows. He called several Persons to his Reputation, who gave him the Character of a Man that was not given to Passion or Rashness; and the Court speaking favourably as to his Authority in such a Case of Necessity and Wants on Ship-board, the Jury acquitted him.

*Samuel Burges* was try'd on four Indictments for Pyracy; the first for Robbing a *Spanish* Bark near the Coast of *Orac* in the *West Indies*, on the 30th of *January*, in the third Year of King *William*, and the Ship and the Apparel valued at 50*l.* 500 Salt-fish, 40 Bushels of *Indian* Corn, and 400 Pieces of Eight: The second for Robbing a Ship called the *Barka Longa*, about sixty Leagues from

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*Barbadoes*, on the 20th of *April*, in the third Year of King *William*, the Ship and Apparel value 20 l. 60 Boxes of Sweet-Meats, 20 Cloth Coats, and 400 Pieces of Eight : The third for Robbing a *Moorish* Ship on the 10th of *September*, in the Fifth Year of King *William* and Queen *Mary*, about four Leagues from Cape *Aden* in the *East Indies*, and the Ship and Apparel value 300 l. and 22000 Pieces of Eight : The fourth for Robbing a *Moorish* Ship on the 12th of *August*, the same Year, about 8 Leagues from *Babb's Key* near the *East Indies*, and the Ship and Apparel value 500 l. and 13000 Pieces of Eight. The Evidences being Capt. *Culliford* and one *Brown*, who deposed, That the Prisoner was a Quarter-Master on board the Ship called the *Jacob* when they took the *Spanish* Bark, and also with them when they took the *Barka Longa* ; and while the rest of the Men landed at *High Brocus* and took a Town, they turned him out of being Quartermaster and sent him home in a Brigantine, and being come home they got a Commission (the War with *France* being broke out) to take *French* Ships, and the Prisoner then came on board of them again ; from thence they went to the Gulph of *Canada*, where they took se-



## 8      *The Tryal, &c. of*

veral *French* Ships, one of which they made a Man of War, and called it the *Jacob*, with which they sailed to divers Places, as the *Cape de Verde* Islands, *St. Nicholas*, *Madagascar*, and so to *Babb's Key* at the Mouth of the *Red Sea*, where they had not lain long before they took the two *Moorish* Ships, which they afterwards shared, and their Shares came to 700 *l.* a Man; since which time the Prisoner traded to *Madagascar*, that Nest of Pyrates, with Powder and small Arms. All which Facts being plainly proved against him, the Jury found him Guilty of all the four Indictments; and he receiv'd Sentence of Death, but afterwards obtained a Reprieve.

Capt. *John Snapes*, and *Robert Acres*, were indicted the 13th of *July* 1702, upon two Felonies; the first upon the Statute, and the second at Common Law. That the 30th of *September* 1698, *Acres* being Mariner on board a Merchants Ship called the *Cloudefly Gally*, did set sail from *London* the 30th of *October* following, and that they upon the High Sea about thirty Leagues distant from *Caberero* in the *Mediterranean* Sea, did burn and consume the said Ship. Capt. *Surley* deposed, That the Ship was fitted out in *England* by the said Capt. *Snapes* and one

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Holder,

*Capt. John Brent, &c.* 9

*Holder*, and that they caused the said Ship here in *England* to be Insured to a great Value, and offer'd him the Command of her, and took up divers great Sums to the Value of 3000 *l.* upon Bottomree, which the said Captain was bound with them for; and that when the Ship was ready to sail, *Snapes* desired him to go with him to one *Holders* at *Hackney*, where after drinking a Glass or two of Wine, they proposed the Matter of burning or sinking the said Ship, at which he was very much startled. That thereupon they told him they had and would insure such considerable Sums of Money; that they should be all Gainers, and that if he would not comply they would have him Arrested for the Money he was bound with them for, and he should lie in a Goal for the same; and to encourage him to do it, they offer'd him 1500 *l.* upon which he was forc'd to comply; and that *Holder* gave him Notes for the said Sum. That after this the Ship sailed from *London* to *Cadiz*, and took in great Quantities of Goods and Plate, which they Insured there; but it being the Owner's Design to sink or fire the said Ship, on purpose to deceive the Insurers, accordingly they sent Word to the Captain at *Cadiz*,

10      *The Tryal, &c. of*

that he should follow the Direction of *Snapes*, who was Captain of the *Holder Frigate*, who being at Sea oftentimes came on board him, and carried away great Quantities of Plate at divers times. And that Capt. *Snapes* procured two Boxes and a Barrel of Cotton-yarn dipt in Brimstone, which was put into the Bread-Room. That then he afterwards perswaded *Acres*, promising him 100 l. to set the Ship on fire, which he did; but the *Holder Frigate* being near, they sent their Boats to fetch all the Men on board, they having removed the Plate and most of the best of the Goods some time before on board the said Frigate. This was in part confirmed by several other Evidences, and Writings were produc'd in Court under *Snapes's* own Hand relating thereto. *Snapes* deny'd the Fact; but having little to say in his Defence the Jury found him Guilty. *Acres* confess'd the whole Fact, saying that *Snapes* sent for him on board the *Holder Frigate*, where by Promises and Threats he at last prevail'd upon him to commit the Fact; for which he said he was heartily sorry, and begged the Mercy of the Court. The Jury found him Guilty likewise. But they moved in Arrest of Judgment in stay of their Execution, and

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Capt. John Brent, &c. 11

and were to be heard by their Council the 2d of *November* following.

*Francis Lawrence*, was indicted the 13th of *July* 1702, for High Treason, that he the 5th of *May* 1699, there being an open War declared against *Lewis* the *French* King, being an *Englishman*, on the 23d of *May* following, adhering to the said *Lewis* the *French* King, did in a hostile Manner come on board a Ship called the *St. Barbara*, with seventeen Enemies to her Majesty Queen *Ann*, whereof he was Captain, with intent to spoil the Ships and Goods of the Queen's Subjects, and afterwards sailed to the *Offin Bay* in *Sole Bay*, on the Coast of *Suffolk*, and that he with Musquets and other Weapons did design to depose the Queen. The Evidence deposed, that having an Account of the War they came from *Dunkirk* to take *English* and *Dutch* Ships; and that coming to *Sole Bay*, near the Shore, with a Design to take a Smack that was riding near the Shore, they were prevented by the Inhabitants firing upon them. That after that they put to Sea, and about Twelve a Clock at Night discover'd a great Ship, which they took to be a Collier; but coming up found they were mistaken, for it was the *Flamborough* Man



## 12      *The Tryal, &c. of*

Man of War riding at Anchor; whereupon the Prisoner sailed away, and the *Flamborough* Man of War cutting her Cable, sailed after the Prisoner's Ship and took it. Other Evidences deposed, That when the Prisoner saw his Ship was like to be taken, he threw his Commission overboard, which Commission he had received from the Count *de Thoulouze*, Admiral of *France*, and also his small Arms, that he might appear to be a Fisher-boat. And another Evidence deposed, That the Prisoner said, if he was taken he should be Hang'd, and that he had a Pistol ready to fire into the Powder-Room, intending to blow up the Ship. The Prisoner in his Defence alledg'd that his Commission was taken before the War was proclaimed, and that he had been an Inhabitant in *Dunkirk* for several Years. But on the contrary it was prov'd that he knew very well of the War, and that it was proclaim'd before he set Sail. Upon hearing the whole Matter the Jury found him Guilty of High Treason. For which he receiv'd Sentence of Death, but afterwards obtained a Reprieve. And while he was in *Newgate*, he having when he liv'd in *France* publicly abjured the Protestant Religion and embraced



*Capt. John Brent, &c.* 13

Popery, did the 9th of *August* after Morning Service, in the Chappel of *Newgate*, make a solemn Recantation and Abjuration of the Doctrines of Transubstantiation, the Sacrifice of the Mass, Purgatory, Pardons, Indulgences, Invocation of Saints, Angels and the Virgin *Mary*; worshipping of the Cross, Images and Reliques, Works of Supererogation, and Merits of Good Works; the Supremacy and Infallibility of the Pope and Church of *Rome*, with the Custom of Praying and Celebrating Divine Worship in an Unknown Tongue, and all the other Erroneous Doctrines and Superstitious Rites and Ceremonies taught or allow'd to be practis'd in that Church; promising by the Grace of God to continue in the Protestant Communion. And he afterwards obtained a Pardon.

*Thomas Boyce* was indicted at the *Old Baily* the 13th of *July* 1702, for Piracy, for that he on the 12th of *August* 1692, upon the High Sea, about eight Leagues from *Babb's Key* near the *East Indies*, did Pyratically take a *Moorish* Ship, the Ship and Apparel value 300 *l.* and 22000 Pieces of eight, and other Goods. The Evidence against him was one *Brown*, who deposed that he was with him in the

*Red*

# 14 The Tryal, &c. of

*Red Sea*, in a Ship called the *St. Jacob*, of which Capt. *Coats* was Commander, when they took both the *Moorish* Ships. That they took the Prisoner on board the said Ship, who was cast away at *Madagascar*, where he was among the Negroes: He also affirmed, that when they took him in he knew of their Design of going a Pyrating, and that at the same time they left near thirty Men belonging to the Prisoner's Ship behind them; that when he came on board he was their Boatswain; that they took the Gold and Silver out of the said Ships and let them go; that afterwards they shared the Money, which did amount to near 700*l*. a Man; that the Prisoner received his Share with a great deal of Readiness. The Prisoner in his Defence said, that he was cast away at *Madagascar* in the Ship *William*, and that he was forc'd to go on board, or else must have lain at the Mercy of the Negroes; insinuating, that he first set out on a lawful Account, but being decoy'd on board was constrain'd to go with them, for that he was threatned to be shot through the Head if he refused. But the Evidence against him deposed to the contrary, and that he was one of the most active in Engaging in the aforesaid Pyracy; that

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## John Larkin. 15

he was one of the first that went on board the *Maorish* Ships, and took his Share with all imaginable Chearfulness. Upon a full hearing of the Matter, the Jury found him Guilty, and he received Sentence of Death accordingly ; but afterwards obtained a Reprieve.



## The LIFE, TRYAL, &c. O F

### John Larkin.

**J**OHN LARKIN, alias *Robert Young*, was indicted at the Sessions-House in the *Old Baily*, the 5th of *April* 1700, for High Treason, for counterfeiting the current Coin of the Kingdom, and the Evidence being full against him the Jury found him Guilty of the Indictment, and he received Sentence to die accordingly.

While he lay under Sentence of Death he was visited by Mr. *Allen* the *Ordinary*, to whom he made the Confession following. That he was born at *Antrim* in *Ireland*, and that his Parents perceiv-  
ing

## 16 *The Tryal, &c. of*

ing his Genius inclined to Learning, he was kept for a considerable time at private Schools, and was afterwards sent to the University of *Glasgow* in *Scotland*; where having made some Proficiency in Philosophy, he went back to *Ireland* and taught a School, in which he so behav'd himself as to gain a general Applause. But having a roving unsettled Mind, he resolv'd to leave that Place and visit the remotest Parts of that Kingdom, and taking upon him the Gown performed several Offices belonging to that Sacred Function. After which he came to *England*, and lived some time in *Lancashire*, being Master of a Free-School there, having about a Hundred Scholars under his Care; but being viciously inclined, lived at such a Rate, that his Income would not answer his exorbitant Expenses, which put him upon racking his Invention how to support his profuse Way of Living. And at length he came to a Resolution how to do it, which was by forging Bonds and counterfeiting Hands; in which pernicious Practices he became so well qualified, that he said he could perform it so artificially that it would be a difficult thing for the Person himself to distinguish his own Hand-writing from his Counterfeit.

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And that this was his sole Refuge, and brought him in no small Gain. And that he did sometimes affix the Hand of a Bishop and several Eminent Divines to his Letters Testimonial, and so collect several Sums of Money, under pretence of redeeming poor Christian Captives that were detained in Slavery: And at other times he would forge Goldsmiths Notes and Bills of Exchange, and followed this Course of Life for some time, till at length his Villanies were detected and Justice overtook him, for which he suffered an ignominious Punishment, being Pilloried, Fined, and committed to Prison while he had discharged his Fine, which was so considerable that all Thought of Liberty was vanished. Being in Prison, some that were Evidences against him at his Tryal used to Coin several Sums of Money, and endeavoured to perswade him to assist them; but he said he absolutely refused to comply with them, nor did ever Coin or had any of the Money to his Share, but did only see them do it. The *Ordinary* suspecting that in this he was not sincere in that it had been so positively sworn in Court, pressed him to be ingenuous in his Confession, and to give Glory to God and Justice to Men; To which he reply'd,



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reply'd, he understood his Duty very well, tho' he had been so wicked as to act contrary to it; but if he died, he would at the Place of Execution discover something to him that might be of Advantage to the Persons concern'd. When he was come to the Place of Execution, he told the *Ordinary* he could not die in Peace till he had acquainted him with one thing, he had hitherto concealed, which was as follows. He being in *Newgate* with one *Charles Newey*, who was convicted for Felony, and also Pillory'd and Fia'd for suborning an Evidence to swear falsely, he was prevailed upon by *Newey* for a Sum of Money, to write a very scurrilous Libel, called, *The Case of Capt. Charles Newey*, which he promised to print speedily, containing very notorious Falshoods and scandalous Reflections, on the Lord Chief Baron and the other Judges, the Recorder, several Justices of the Peace, and others who try'd him. For which, he said, he heartily begged their Pardon, saying it was so malicious and base, that he thought no body would print it. After he had confess'd this to the *Ordinary*, he turned to the People, desiring them to take Warning by his Punishment, and that his lamentable Death

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might terrify more from continuing in their Sin, than the Example of his Life had led into it; exhorting them to be affraid of the sad End of Evil-doers, and of the Vengeance of God, which is oft-times swift, but when it is most slow, will be sure at last, and utterly insupportable to all those who will not take care in time to appease him by Amendment of Life. After he had pray'd he turning himself to the Spectators, took a decent Leave of them, and thanking the *Ordinary* for his Pains, deliver'd him the Paper which you will find below, and was hang'd at Tyburn the 19th of April 1700, in Company with *Thomas Allison* convicted of a Burglary.

*His PAPER deliver'd to the Ordinary.*

I Cannot but be very sensible how justly I have provoked a most Merciful and Just God to Anger, by manifold Offences I have committed, and therefore for the necessary Discouragement of others, who shall endeavour to tread in my Steps, and parallel my Forgeries, I conceived it a Duty incumbent on me to leave the World a true and faithful Narrative of my prevaricating Steps; but the shortness of Time allotted me being

being not sufficient to finish such a Work in, I will mention only these few Passages of my Life.

And first, I think my self especially obliged to discover to the Publick how far I was concerned in that pretended Plot, supposed to be carried on by the Earls of *Marlborough* and *Salisbury*, the Lord Bishop of *Rocheſter* and some others, the Truth of which, I call God to Witness, is as follows; I was committed to *Newgate* till I discharged a certain Fine imposed on me: During my Confinement, one *Henry Pearson* (a Surgeon I think) was committed to the same Place for Debt; he perceiving me to be very expert in counterfeiting Hands, told me, that if I could contrive a Sham-Plot and Father it upon those Noble Peers, I might soon have Money enough to pay my Fine. Being in very low Circumstances, I readily consented to this Proposal; but told him nothing could be done in that Matter till he was released, which in a short time was effected. As soon as he was at Liberty he employ'd one *Blackhead* to carry Letters between us. I happen'd by a certain Stratagem to see the Earl of *Marlborough's* Hand; this I counterfeited so cunningly, that it was very difficult to discern the true

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from the false : Then I drew up an Association and affixt to it, the Hands of the Earls of *Marlborough* and *Salisbury*; as also Sir *Basil Firebrass*; the Lord Bishop of *Rocheſter's* and the Lord *Cornbury's* was wrote by another Hand, according to my Request. And that the more Credit might be given to this pretended Plot, I wrote ſeveral Letters in the Name of the Lord *Marlborough* : For I was perfectly acquainted with his way of Writing, ſuppoſed to be directed to me, which *Blackhead* uſed to bring me again ; and yet he ſwore before the Lords of the Council, that the ſaid Earl ſent them to me, whereas to his Knowledge I my ſelf forged them, and ordered them to be ſent after that Manner. This is the Truth of that Buſineſs, which has made ſo great a Noiſe in the World : And I humbly beg the Pardon of thoſe Noble Peers ; and do declare once more in the Preſence of God, That I did not ſet the Lord Bishop of *Rocheſter's* or the Lord *Cornbury's* Hands to the ſaid Paper. Yet it was done with my Conſent by another Perſon. And whereas I am accuſed with writing ſeveral threatening Letters to the ſaid Biſhop, if he did not leave 100 *l.* in a certain Place ; I declare, as I am a dying Man I was not concern'd

[Illegible] in



## 22 The Tryal, &c. of

in it. As for this Crime of Coining for which I die, I declare before God I am no otherwise guilty than by being a Spectator. But altho' I am not guilty of this Fact; yet I must lay my Hand upon my Mouth, and confess that the Lord is Righteous, and his Judgments upright: For I injured my Neighbour so often by Forgeries, Cheats, &c. that I think it scarce possible to recount them. But that I may not totally omit them neither; In the Year 1695, I removed my self by *Habeas Corpus* from the *King's Bench* to the *Fleet*, where I came acquainted with Mr. *Hunter*, now living in *Billiter-lane*, Mr. *George Alliver* alias *Blok*, Mr. *Dawson*, Mr. *Greenfield*, Mr. *Corn*, and others whom I have forgot. In the End we concluded to Cheat one Mr. *Lasinby* of *Leeds* in *Yorkshire*, out of Cloth to the Value of 135 *l.* which accordingly was effected, and the Cloth deliver'd at the *Bear-Inn* in *Basinghall-Street*. In the Year 1697, I was by the Warden of the *Fleet* removed back again to the *King's Bench*, where I came acquainted with Mr. *John Cary*, *George Benson* and *James Roberts*, and by false Bills of Exchange and forged Letters, endeavoured to cheat Mr. *Seth Losihouse*, a Goldsmith in *Fleetstreet*, and Mr. *Peter Block*

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*Block Machiels*, a Merchant of *Amsterdam*, out of 1600 *l.* but that failed, tho' *Cary* was Pillory'd for it. In the aforesaid Year 1697, I came acquainted with one Mr. *John Griffin* in *Tuttle-street, Westminster*, and by forged Leases, as under one Dr. *Thomas Lamplugh's* Hand, I have cheated Men in Town out of several Hundred Pounds by way of Mortgage. Sir *John Johnson*, an Alderman and Goldsmith in *Cheapside*, since deceas'd, very narrowly escaped being Cheated out of 200 *l.* by Virtue of one of the foremention'd Leases. In the Year 1698, the aforesaid Persons and I cheated Mr. *Azariah Reynolds*, an Undertaker in *Cheapside*, of a Velvet Pall, two Cloaks, &c. by a forged Letter, as from his Correspondent in the Country, for which I was committed to *Newgate*, and fined 200 Marks at *Guildhall*, where I received my Tryal and was Convicted.

In *Newgate* I came acquainted with *Jones*, the Evidence, whom I saw Coin in the Debtors Hall several Sums of Money. How far I was concern'd with them, I have already observed. But I forgive them, and do humbly beg God and the Persons I have wronged to forgive me those wicked Actions I have committed. Into thy Hands, O God, I

com-

24      *The Tryal, &c. of*  
commend my Spirit ; Lord Jesus receive  
the Soul, of the unhappy and miserable

*April 20, 1700.*

*Robert Young.*

\*\*\*\*\*

*The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

*John Smith.*

**J** O H N S M I T H, was indicted the  
17th of *January* 1700, for two Mis-  
demeanors: The first for Kidnapping  
and Trepanning one *Joseph Portal*, a  
Jew, on board of Ship, and causing him  
to be convey'd to *Maryland*, in Parts be-  
yond the Seas, into Slavery. He was  
likewise indicted a second time for Spi-  
riting and Trepanning *Samuel Cooper*, a  
Christian Youth, of the Age of sixteen  
Years, whom he also sent into Slavery.  
The Evidence for the King deposed,  
That *Joseph Portal* came from *Centa* in  
*Africa* to see his Friends in *England*, and  
had been here but two Days before he  
was enticed off from the *Exchange* to an  
[Vol. II.]      Office

Office by St. *Mary Hill*, and there bound to serve *Smith* the Prisoner, and that from that time he was sent on board, and seen in *England* no more. The Evidences to the second Indictment were the Parents of *Samuel Cooper*, who deposed, That the Child was sent to Church on *Sunday* Morning, and they never saw him more, nor heard of him, till they found at the said Office that he was bound to *Smith* the Prisoner, and sent away with *Joseph Portal* the Jew. It was deposed likewise, That the Prisoner had bound several Hundred young Persons at the said Office, who were all sent for Slaves. The Prisoner acknowledged the Fact, and had Council Learned in the Law allow'd him for his Defence, who pretended to justify the Action by a Patent for binding all manner of Persons that were willing to serve in the Plantations; which Patent was produc'd and read in Court, where it did appear the Intent and Meaning of the said Patent and Office was, to prevent any unfair Practices in this Nature, and to hinder any Person being sent away contrary to his own Freewill and the Consent of his Parents or Friends; which Consent the Prisoner could not prove, tho' he produc'd a Person who

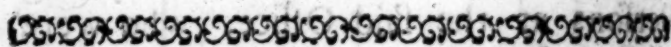
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affirmed he had spoken to *Samuel Cooper* in *Irish* before he was bound, and that he declar'd himself willing to go. But *Cooper's* Parents testified that the Boy never had been in *Ireland*, nor could speak any *Irish*. Upon which his Evidence appeared to be an *Irish* one, and therefore the Court order'd him to be taken into Custody. The Facts being plainly proved against *Smith*, the Jury found him Guilty of both Indictments, and the Court sentenced him to stand three times in the Pillory, and Fined him 80*l*.



## *The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

## *John Littlehales.*

**J**OHNN LITTLEHALES, was indicted the 18th of *Jan.* 1700, for Misdemeanors on five several Indictments: The first for taking from *Robert Cook*, a Carrier, 5 *l.* under Pretence of a Warrant for drawing with six Horses in Length, when he had no such Warrant. The second, for extorting from *Thomas*  
[Vol. II.] South-

*Southgate* 5 *l.* upon the same Pretence. The third, for extorting 5 *l.* from *Richard Hurst* on the same Pretence. The fourth and fifth, for extorting Money from *Matthew Lancaster* on the same Pretence. The first Evidence deposed, That he and his Father had paid the Prisoner a Guinea a Quarter for some time, for which he pretended to License him to go with six Horses in Length; and that from *August* 1698, till *January* 1700, he had paid him near 50 *l.* besides the Guinea a Quarter, and that at the last Payment the Prisoner told him if he would pay him 5 *l.* he would trouble him no more for a Quarter of a Year, telling him that he was Deputy Surveyor of the High Ways, and had a License from Esquire *Lawrence*. Other Evidences deposed they had paid him Money at several times. The Prisoner deny'd the Facts, pretending that he had only borrow'd the Money of them; but the Evidences contradicted what he alledg'd, and affirmed that he had got a great deal of Money, and enrich'd himself by that means. The Jury found him Guilty of all the Indictments, and the Court Fined him 50 *l.* upon each Indictment, and ordered him to remain in Custody till paid, and to find Sureties for twelve Months.

*The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

*John Simpson.*

**J** O H N S I M P S O N, born in *Essex*, was indicted for Felony and Burglary, at the Sessions-House in the *Old Baily*, the 25th of *July* 1698, for breaking the House of Sir *Edward Abney*, and stealing 2 Silver Candlesticks, value 40*l.* and other Goods to a considerable Value. It appeared by the Evidence, That the Window of the House was opened and the Goods stolen, which the Person who bought them testified in Court were brought to her by *Holliday, Tho. Chance,* and *William Eaton*. The Prisoner had little to say in his Defence. The Jury acquitted him of the Burglary, but found him Guilty of the Felony ; for which he was ordered to be Transported, but made shift to get to *England* again, and went to his old Practices, and was apprehended and indicted at the *Old Baily* the 4th of *July* 1700, for the breaking

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the House of *Elizabeth Camden*, on the 29th of *May*, and stealing thence a Feather-Bed, 2 Feather-Bolsters, and a Pair of Sheets; to which Indictment he pleaded Guilty at his Tryal, and received Sentence to Die. Being under-Condernation he gave the *Ordinary* the Account following.

That he was so wearied with committing Iniquity, that he had lost all Relish of this present Life, and therefore desired to live no longer. He said he had been as great an Offender as perhaps ever was, in Drunkenness, Blasphemy, Lewdness, Robbery, Sacrilege and Murther, in which he profest himself to have been a Master. As for Blasphemy, Lewdness and Robbery, he said, he once thought they were essential to his Employment, as being a Soldier, but being now come to himself, was of another mind. As to his Robberies, he gave this particular Account following. That he had been Guilty of it oftner than he could remember; that he had both broken Houses and robbed on the High Way, and particularly that he with three others did the *Easter-Eve* before rob a Gentleman a little beyond *Tyburn*, and take from him Five hundred Guineas; that he had frequently robbed Of-



ficers Tents when he was a Soldier in *Flanders*, and also *K. William's* Tent, from whence he and his Companions carried away above 1000 *l.* and that he had committed so many Robberies both in *England* and *Flanders*, that he had gotten the Name of Captain of the Robbers in both Countries, and particularly in *Flanders*, where he affirmed, that the Gates of the City of *Ghent* had been twice shut up in a Fortnight's time in order to find him out, and when he was apprehended, Irons were put about his Neck, his Back, his Arms and Legs, and in this Condition he was carried about for a Show. As for Sacrilege, he declared it was his frequent Custom to strip the Papists, as they went to Mass at five a Clock in the Morning, and that he and two more with their Swords drawn had robbed them at the very Altar, and when the Mob has been raised upon them have run laughing about the Streets and defied them. That once in particular he robbed *St. Peter's* Church in the City of *Ghent* of Plate to the Value of 1200 *l.* altho' that Place had been an *Asylum* for him, when he had been Condemn'd for a Murther. The Circumstances of which, he said, were as follows: That he having killed a Man,

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was

## John Simpson. 31

was condemn'd for it, but *Broke Goal*, and fled to the aforementioned Church, where in four Days time the Priests got him a Pardon; and that then in a short time he having gotten acquainted with the Avenues of the Place where the Plate lay, he stole it and got away; but was afterwards apprehended upon Suspicion, but for want of sufficient Proof was acquitted. As for Murder, he acknowledged, he had killed four or five Men in Quarrels, but never any in any of his Robberies, and added, that he was one of them that had broken out of *Newgate* the *Christmas* before, he having been cast for a couple of Felonies, and that his right Name was *John Holiday*.

Having given this Account that looks something Romantick, the *Ordinary* of *Newgate* told him he suspected his Relation, and that it was hardly possible it should be all true, and he thought he only told these Things to be talked of. To which he answered, that what he confest was really true, that tho' he had formerly made his Brags of these things, yet for six Weeks last past he was so far from that, that he was overwhelm'd with Shame and Confusion for his Villanies. The *Ordinary* then told him, that he wondred he being one of the

Children of this World, had not exerted so much Wisdom, as to take up whilst he was well, having several times, as he said, got so great Quantities of Money. To which he reply'd, that whatsoever he had gotten together by such unlawful Means, he never had Power to make a right Use of. The *Ordinary* then told him, that if his Repentance was sincere, he should discover his Accomplices, that so they knowing they were discover'd might make a Virtue of Necessity, and so abandon their wicked Courses. This he seem'd to make some Scruple to do, making Excuses, saying he ought not to betray his Friends, &c. But he telling them it was not to betray them, but that it was for their true Interest, and also for the Good of his own Soul. This had that Effect upon him, that he discovered several both Men and Women, whom he desired to become wise and sober in time. The *Ordinary* then told him, that in Justice to the Publick he ought to discover, if he knew any particular Ways (not common) by which Thieves used to rob Houses, that so honest People may be upon their Guard. To this he answered, that one particular Way by which Thieves get into Houses, was,  
- [Vol. II.] by

by standing upon one anothers Shoulders to the Number of three, and then the uppermost scrambles into the Chamber, strikes a Light and makes up his Bundle, and throws it out to his Accomplices; that about Supper-time is generally the time, because then the Servants are giving their Attendance.

He heartily wished he had been wise and sober in time himself, seemed to be very well contented with his Confinement, did not seem desirous of Life, but seemed very Penitent. When he came to the Place of Execution, he said he was very willing to die; declaring he had rather die than venture again into the World, if that were possible; for then he said, he might fall into some Disorders and be undone for Ever, but now he had some Hopes in his Death. He was Executed at Tyburn being near 40 Years of Age, the 20th of July 1700, in Company with *George Goffe* condemn'd for a Felony and Burglary, and *Jonathan Lane* for Robbing Esquire *Harcourt* upon the High Way.



*The TRYAL, &c.*

O F

*Capt. Edmund Tool.*

**E**DMUND TOOL, alias *Toolley*, of the Parish of *Finchly*, was indicted upon three Indictments. The first for Robbing one *John Oldham* on the Highway, and taking from him a Pair of Boots, a Sword Belt, a Gelding value 5*l.* and 50*s.* in Money, the Property of *Robert Leaver*, Esq; The second, For Robbing the said *Robert Leaver* on the Highway, and taking from him a Pair of Shag Breeches, a Sword, a Pair of Pistols, &c. The third, For the Murther of the said *Robert Leaver*, by giving him a Mortal Wound with a Pistol, the 11th of July 1799, of which he languish'd till the next Day and then died. Esquire *Leaver's* Man deposed, That his Master and he travelling towards *Lancashire*, were set upon the Day abovemention'd between 10 and 11 a Clock at Night by some Highway-Men between *Highgate* and *Finchly-Common*, who wounded them, took away their Horses, carried

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Capt. Edmund Tooll. 35

ried them into the Fields, used them very cruelly, cut him in the Head, stabbed him in the Back, stript them, took from him the Things beforementioned, and also a Portmanteau and about 3 l. of his Master's Money, bound them and then left them. Another Evidence deposed, That he passing that Way saw a Firing through a Hedge, and presently out came some Men and set upon the Deceased and his Man; that they forced him with Threats to go with them and hold their Horses, while they stripped the Deceased and his Servant, stamped upon his Face and Stomach, because he would not lie with his Face downward, upon which the Deceased begged of them to spare his Life, and at their going away they threw one of the Coats to him, which he taking up put over Mr. Leaver's Man, knowing him to be wounded in the back; that one of them perceiving it said, *Damn him, he is untying them, shoot him*, and ran after him, upon which he fell down and begged hard for his Life. Another Evidence deposed, That himself was present with the Prisoner in the Robbery; that they and two more went through *Highgate* about duskish, being two on Horseback and two on foot, and that having concealed

ed

36      *The Tryal, &c. of*

ed themselves in a Thicket about half an Hour, they heard the Noise of the Deceased and his Man coming along the Road, upon which the Prisoner rode up to the Deceased in order to seize him, and caught hold of his Sword, which coming out of the Scabbard the Deceased rode away, and the Prisoner firing after him gave him a Wound on the back Part of his Body near the Fundament, of which he afterwards died, and carried the Deceased and his Servant into the Fields, robbed them and bound them and then rode away to *Whetstone*, so to *Enfield-Chase*, and over *Epping-Forest* to the *Green Man* at *Stratford*, where they dined, and came to *London* the next Evening. It also appeared, that the Prisoner brought the Deceased's Horse to be put to Grass, and had on the Deceased's Clothes when he was apprehended at the *Blue Ball* in *German-street*, and made a very resolute and desperate Resistance before his Apprehension, firing Pistols at those that endeavoured to apprehend him, wounding several of them, and was shortning his Sword to have stabb'd the Person who laid hold of him; which the Prisoner hearing the Evidence depose, he said, tho' at the Bar, *he was sorry he had*

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not

Capt. Edmund Tool. 37

*not stabbed him to the Heart.* The Prisoner indeed deny'd the Fact, but owned that he had the Clothes which were sworn to be the Deceased's, but said that he bought them. The Matter being so plainly proved, the Jury found him Guilty of all the three Indictments.

He was also indicted a second time together with one *Brian Sullivan*, for Robbing one *Hugh Floyd* on the Highway, and taking from him 6 s. 6 d. in Money, and 18 Pounds of Butter, and a Bay Mare, value 8 l. the 11th of *October*. The Evidence deposed, That the Prisoners and some others held a Rope cross the Road, which stopp'd the Prosecutor, and the rest came to him and robbed him. The Jury found them both Guilty, and they received Sentence of Death; and in Resentment of *Tool's* Barbarity, he was sentenc'd to be Hang'd in Chains in the nearest Place to where he had committed the Murther and Robbery.

Being at the Place of Execution, he deliver'd a Paper to Mr. *Allen*, the Ordinary of *Newgate*, the Copy of which is as follows.

*Good People,*

**I**T being expected from Persons, who are so unhappy as to be brought to this



this untimely End, to make a Speech at the fatal Place; I thought it therefore fit for the Discharge of my Conscience, and the Satisfaction of the World, to commit my Mind to Writing, that so others hearing of my shameful Death, may avoid those Vices which were the Cause of my Ruin.

I was born in *Ireland*, descended of no mean Family, tho' reduced to Poverty by forfeiting their Estates by the War in the Year 1641. I was educated in the *Roman* Catholick Religion, in which Persuasion I now die; my Parents brought me up to no Trade, for which Reason I followed a Military Course of Life, having served King *Charles* the Second faithfully, as also my King — in whose Guards I was eldest Captain during his stay in *Ireland*; but my Colonel being killed at the Battle of *Aghrim*, I retreated to *Limerick*, where I had not long remained till a Difference arose between me and a superior Officer, whose Name I pass by in Silence, and whom I heartily forgive, as I hope God will for Christ Jesus sake pardon my Sins, which are many and great. This caused me to quit the Service and come to *England*, where I remained not long till I went to *France*; there I found

*Capt. Edmund Tooll.* 39

but little Encouragement, so returned to this Kingdom again; where being reduc'd to Poverty, I at length joined my self to a Gang of Highway-Men, and with them to my present great Grief committed several Robberies. Murther I always did abhor; and tho' I am so unhappy as to be the Instrument of Mr. *Leaver's* Death, yet I protest before Almighty God, before whom I am now to appear, I did not design it. For it happen'd after this Manner: The Evidence and I, with two others whom I will not name, designed to take some Money from the Countrymen returning from Market; for which Reason we went to *Finchly-Common*, where I saw a Gentleman and his Man with a Portmanteau, which I concluded was according to our Expectation; I rode up with him with an intent to steal his Sword, but being better mounted than I he got clear, but presently returned and fired a Pistol at me; upon which I came close to him, and designed to shoot his Horse, unfortunately wounded him. But in my Opinion the bad Usage he met with from the others who were with me, contributed very much to his Death. This is the Truth as I am a Dying Man, and I pray God forgive my Sins, which are as the  
Sand

40 *The Tryal, &c. of*

Sand on the Sea Shore. Into thy Hands,  
O God, I commend my Spirit: O *Jesu*  
*Maria*! have Mercy on the Soul of the  
unfortunate.

He was hang'd on *Finchly-Common*,  
*Feb. 2.* 1700, and afterwards hang'd  
there in Chains.

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*The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

*Eleanor Marchand.*

**E**LEANOR MERCHANT, was indicted  
at the Sessions-House in the *Old*  
*Baily* on the 9th of *December* 1700, for  
a High Misdemeanor, for that she did  
contrive to deliver one Mr. *Allen Alex-*  
*ander Pitot*, into the Hands of divers  
*Popish* Priests, in order to be convey'd  
beyond Sea, to be tortured by their  
bloody Inquisition. Mr. *la Fountaine* de-  
posed, That Mr. *Pitot* having fled from  
*France* by reason of his having been per-  
secuted for renouncing several Errors  
of the Church of *Rome*, was a Lodger  
in his House, and did renounce the *Po-*  
[Vol. II.] *fish*

## Eleanor Marchand. 41

*pish* Principles, and was admitted a Member of the *French* Protestant Church. This was also confirmed by a *French* Minister, who deposed, That upon Mr. *Pitot's* Application to the *French* Church, and coming to the Vestry desiring to be admitted as a Member, they did enquire concerning him, and had so satisfactory an Account of him, that the whole Vestry was satisfied of his Sincerity in renouncing the *Popish* Errors, and he was accordingly admitted into the Congregation. Mr. *la Fountain* further deposed, That *Eleanor Marchand* was his Servant, and that he took her for a Protestant, but afterwards had Reason to suspect she was not; that Mr. *Pitot* going out on the *Monday* and not coming home early in the Evening, as was his usual Practice, he began to mistrust some Male Practices had been used with him: But not coming in all that Night, and hearing he had been invited to go with a Person that came thither to enquire for him, he began to be uneasie about him, and suspected his Maid-Servant, because she had been out two Days before; whereupon he charging her strictly with what he suspected, that she had been privy to some Contrivance of Trepanning



ning Mr. *Pitot*, she at last owned she knew where he was, and bid him be quiet, and she would carry him to the Place where he was; with that he took some Friends with him, and they went together, and she led them towards the *Tower*: Upon which he told her that was not the Way she told them before; to which she reply'd, if they would do her no harm, she would carry them to him, where he was very well; then she carried them to the *Strand* and thence to *Covent-Garden*, and at last to *Lincolns-Inn-Fields*, and on a sudden turned short and ran into the *Portugal* Envoy's House; that they would have followed her but could not, being denied by the Envoy's Servants, and that he, not being permitted to come to the sight of Mr. *Pitot*, made his Complaint to the Secretary, who sent for the Ambassador and a Fryar, who was a Priest, in order to examine them about the Matter, and that some time after Mr. *Pitot* came home. Mr. *Pitot* deposed, That he had been a *Capuchin* Fryar in *France*, and being minded to abjure the Popish Religion and become a Protestant, he fled for it, but was taken in *France*, and very severely dealt with by Imprisonment and other Cruelties, but at length made his

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Escape

## Eleanor Marchand. 43

Escape into *Flanders*, and thence into *Holland*, from whence he came to *England*, and embraced the Protestant Religion, having first renounced all the Errors and Idolatry of the *Romish* Church, and was at length admitted into the *French* Church, and took a Lodging in *Spittle-Fields* at the House of Mr. *Abraham Alles la Fontaine*, where *Eleanor Marchand* was a Servant, and lived under the Colour of a *French* Refugee, but as it appear'd, was in her Heart a rank Papist, and knowing his Circumstances, had acquainted several Persons therewith, who consulted secretly to carry him beyond Sea, where he must either renounce the Protestant Religion, or undergo the Punishment of a Heretick; and that on the 2d of *September* before one *Richard Manuel*, a *Romish* Priest, came to Mr. *la Fountain's* House, and *Eleanor Marchand* told him there was a Man below would speak with him, he asked her who it was, and she said she did not know; upon which he came down, and it was Father *Richard* whom he knew, having formerly seen him in *France*, who after a Salutation asked him to drink a Glass of Wine with him, which he consented to do; and so having gotten him with him and some other.

# 44      *The Tryal, &c. of*

ther Persons, they convey'd him from Place to Place till they brought him to the Envoy of *Portugal's* House, where he was kept in a Room, in which was a green Bed, lock'd up till the next Day, in Order to be sent away. He further added, that they offer'd him if he would recant the Protestant Religion, they would make his Peace with the Church, and get him a Pension, but did not name how much; or else they would get him a Place with some Foreign Ambassador; That he having continued there till the next Day in fear least they should carry him away beyond Sea, at last found means by a piece of a Sword to thrust back the Lock, und so got away. The Prisoner *Eleanor Marchand* deny'd the Fact, owned indeed that she did carry her Master to the Envoy's House, because she knew the Man that took Mr. *Pitot* out with him, having seen him at Mals the *Sunday* before; but that she did not contrive or had any Hand in delivering Mr. *Pitot* up to them. But to confront her in this, there were two other Evidences who deposed, That as they were going to the Custom-House it happen'd to rain, so they agreed to go to drink till the Rain was over, where the Prisoner was sitting by the Fire; and falling

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## Eleanor Marchand. 45

into Discourse of the Fryar and Ambassador being before the Secretary of State about Mr. *Pitor's* being missing, she asked them some Questions which gave them some Suspicion of her being concerned; upon which they asked her if she was the Person that had deliver'd him up; to which she reply'd, she was. Whereupon they made Answer she had done a very fine Business; and she answer'd, she did not think she had done a bad one. In her further Defence she called Evidences who said Mr. *Pitor* did not lie in the Envoy's House, but in another Place in a Young Man's Bed in the Garret, and that the Bed had no Curtains about it, and that there was neither Lock nor Bolt to the Door. But her Witnesses being all Papists, were supposed to have had Absolution in order to swear any thing; the Jury thereupon found her Guilty of the Misdemeanor, and she was fined 100 Marks, and ordered to lie in Prison till paid, and to find Securities for her good Behaviour for twelve Months.

*The*



*The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

*William Cress and Edward Robinson.*

**W**ILLIAM CRESS, Gent. and EDWARD ROBINSON, were indicted at the *Old Baily* the 6th of *December* 1699, for the Murther of *Rose Cress* alias *Robinson*, his supposed Wife. The Evidence deposed, That the Deceas'd came to the Prisoners Lodgings, saying she was his Wife; and being admitted into the Room, they heard high Words pass between them, and the Deceased scream out, and a Noise of Bustling and Struggling, and the Door being shut. they did not attempt to intermeddle in the Quarrel: But some time after the Prisoners went out without the Woman, and they not hearing any thing of her, nor seeing her come down, at last going into the Room found her dead, undressed and in Bed; That hearing some Passages that passed betwixt them they suspected some foul Play, and thereupon sent for a Surgeon

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## Cress and Robinson. 47

geon to bleed her; who coming, was of Opinion that she did not die in a Fit, as was afterwards suggested by the Prisoners, but was really suffocated by Violence; that thereupon when the Prisoners came home, pretending to have left her well, they apprehended them. There were several other corroborating Evidences that she came by her Death violently. The Prisoners deny'd the Fact; nevertheless the Matter was so plainly made out to the Satisfaction of the Jury, that they brought them both in Guilty.

Being under Sentence of Death they both insisted on their Innocence, and that she died in a Convulsion Fit. But at last when they found there was no Expectation of a Reprieve, and the Matter was laid home to them by the *Ordinary*, they began to relent, and made the Confession following. *William Cress* said that he was born at *Bath*, of good and honest Parents, and for some time kept to School; but giving the loose Reins to his sinful Inclinations he bid Adieu to Learning, and resolved to try his Fortune another way, and so listed himself a Soldier under old Duke *Schomberg*, and went with him to *Ireland*, where he remained during the War, and was in  
the

the Post of a Cornet in the Regiment of Dragoons, commanded by the late Sir *Halbert Cunningham*: But leading a dissolute debauch'd Life, addicted to Gaming and Company-keeping, his Pay not being sufficient to supply his exorbitant Expences and craving Circumstances, he sold his Place in the Army and got acquainted with the Deceased *Rose Robinson*, and did for some time cohabit with her, but would not own that he was married to her, and then returned into *England*, where he married a Coheiress, which she hearing of haunted him like a Ghost, putting him in mind of his Promises and Vows, and that thereupon to stop her Clamour he promised to pay her a Sum of Money speedily, and for that End invited her to *London*. But at the second Visit Words arising between the Deceased and him, *Edward Robinson* being present; he, *i. e. Edward Robinson*, seizing her and catching her hold by the Throat, depressed her to the Ground, stopping her Mouth and Nostrils with a Handkerchief till she expired; that then they both undressed her and put her to Bed, leaving her in the same Posture that the Woman of the House found her in. He owned also that at that time he was well pleased that she was taken away,

## Cress and Robinson. 49

in that she was the Obstacle that hindered his receiving his new Wife's Portion, some of her Friends having heard that he was married to the Deceased. After this Acknowledgment he behaved himself modestly, and seemed to be sensible of his Sin.

*Edward Robinson* likewise remained for some time obstinate, asserting his Innocence, as to knowing any thing of the Deceased's being murther'd. Gave this Account of himself, That he was Servant to *Collonel King*, whose Regiment was in *Ireland*; that by that Means he came acquainted with *Mr. Cress*, whose Sister he married. But when Death drew nigher to him and stared him in the Face, and he knew that *Cress* touch'd with Remorse of Conscience had owned the Fact, then he acknowledged that she was murther'd, and in the same manner before related, but with this difference, that *Cress* did the Fact, and that he only consented to it, and helped to carry her to bed. And therefore would justify himself, because he said he did not lay his Hand upon her, till she was dead, and therefore would fain fancy that he suffer'd undeservedly. They were Executed near *Temple-Bar* the 19th of December 1699.



*The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.*

OF

*Haagen Swendsen.*

**H**AAGEN SWENDSEN, was born in Norway, of reputable Parents, who gave him a Liberal Education, which together with his Natural Accomplishments recommended him to the Service of an *English* Merchant at *Hamburg*, with whom he liv'd some considerable time; and at length having a mind to come for *England*, he got himself admitted in the Retinue of some *Danish* Nobility that were coming over, by whose Recommendations he was entertain'd here as Steward to Collonel *Nichols*, one of the Gentlemen of the Bed-Chamber to King *James* the 1<sup>st</sup>, in which Post he continued some considerable time, behaving himself very well, till marrying an *English* Gentlewoman he returned into his own Country: His Wife dying there he came back into *England* and traded as a Merchant, being employ'd by the *Hamburg*

## Haagen Swendsen. 51

Company, and was a Party-Owner of a Ship in the River of *Thames* at the time of his being apprehended for being marry'd to Mrs. *Rawlins*.

He was indicted at the *Queen's-Bench* Bar, *Westminster*, *November* the 25th, 1702. for marrying Mrs. *Pheasant Rawlins*, being under the Age of Eighteen, and an Heiress, without her Consent: And likewise at the same time were indicted *Sarah Bainton*, *John Hartwell* Bailiff, and *John Spur* as Accessories to the same Fact.

The Evidence deposed, That Mrs. *Pheasant Rawlins* was the Daughter of Mr. *William Rawlins*, who leaving her to the Value of 2000 *L.* in Money, and an Estate of 20 *L.* a Year, appointed *George Bright* and *William Busby* to be her Guardians; That Mr. *Bright* being dead, Mr. *Busby* for her better Education had plac'd her under the Care of his Sister *Sabina Busby*, who lodg'd at the House of one Mrs. *Nightingale*, a Widow, in *Stretton Grounds, Westminster*; and that *Haagen Swendsen* and *Sarah Bainton* had some time before lodg'd at one Mr. *Blake's* in *Holbourn*, and there first projected and contrived to get Mrs. *Rawlins* married to Mr. *Swendsen*. That in order to effect this Design, Mrs. *Bainton*

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procures one Mrs. *St. John* to go to Mrs. *Nightingale* to take Lodgings for her, recommending her as a very good Woman; that having the Misfortune to have a Law Suit, was obliged to attend in Town, whose greatest Care it was to lodge in so reputable a House as Mrs. *Nightingale's* was, and in a House that was near to a Church, for the better Conveniency of her Devotion. And under this Pretence Lodgings were taken for her, and that there she put on a Disguise, and seemed to live a very Religious and Virtuous Life for some time, and then told them she had a Brother of a good Estate and one of the best Men in the World, that she hop'd would come to Town shortly. Some small time after a Letter was brought to her, at the Reception of which she pretended to fall into Fits with Joy: When she came to her self telling the Family that she had received that Letter from a dear Brother and a very good Christian, who would be there on the Morrow. That accordingly on the Morrow Mr. *Swendsen* came; and she praising her Lodgings to him, wish'd that he would come and take Lodgings near: But Mr. *Swendsen* objected that his Business called him every Day to the *Exchange*, and it would be

## Haagen Swendsen. 53

be inconvenient for him. Then she desired to know of Mrs. *Nightingale* what she would have a Meal if her Brother did come and dine there at any time, and was told 12 d. That Mr. *Swendsen* came afterwards frequently and dined there in order to introduce himself into Mrs. *Rawlins*'s Conversation. That Mrs. *Bainton* being a Woman of but a bad Repute, could not keep her Disguise long enough to effect the seducing Mrs. *Rawlins* by Frauds and Wiles; and she being appriz'd that Mrs. *Nightingale* designed to give her Warning to go away, Mr. *Swendsen* and she took Measures to effect that by Force, they could not by Fraud; and therefore it was agreed between them that Mrs. *Bainton* should take out a Writ against Mrs. *Rawlins*; and she knowing that Mrs. *Busby* and Mrs. *Rawlins* used frequently to go to *Oxendine Chappel*, on Friday Morning she tells them that she was going to *Golden-Square*, invites Mrs. *Busby* and Mrs. *Rawlins* to go with her, and she would set them down near the Chappel. That they suspecting nothing went, and by the Way two Bailiffs, *John Hartwell* and *John Spur*, stopp'd the Coach and came in, and pretended to Arrest Mrs. *Rawlins* and Mrs. *Busby*, and carried them to



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the *Star and Garter Tavern* in *Drury-Lane*; and that Mrs. *Bainton* pretending Ignorance of the Matter, and in a mighty Concern went from them, pretending to call their Friends; that in the mean time *Hartwell* to separate Mrs. *Rawlins* from Mrs. *Busby*, carries Mrs. *Rawlins* to his own House, and leaves Mrs. *Busby* at the Tavern in the Custody of *John Spur*, where she was kept till near Night, that they had gotten Mr. *Swendsen* married to Mrs. *Rawlins*. That in the mean time Mrs. *Bainton* comes to *Hartwell's* the Bailiff's House, and pretends she accidentally heard Mrs. *Rawlins's* Name mention'd there, and tells her she had been with all her Friends, and that they either were not at home, or would not come; but at last pretends she would go look for her Brother *Swendsen* to bail her, who being posted for that Purpose hard by, soon came along with one *Holt*, who kept the *Mitre-Tavern* in *King-streer, Westminster*, to bail Mrs. *Rawlins*, and then they went from thence to the *Vine Tavern* to bail her. That then *Hartwell* pretended to refuse Mr. *Swendsen's* Bail, by reason he did not know him, and so under Pretence of not liking the Bail, Mrs. *Rawlins* was menac'd with going to *Newgate*. That there-

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upon

# Haagen Swendsen. 55

upon Mrs. *Bainton* cry'd, O! how I pity you, Mrs. *Rawlins*; Is there no Way in the Law to help you? I believe if you were married that would put an End to the Action. Then putting the Question to the Bailiff, he answer'd, if such a thing were I can't tell but it might. Then Mrs. *Bainton* begged of Mrs. *Rawlins* to be married to her Brother *Swendsen*; but Mrs. *Rawlins* reply'd, she would do nothing without her Friends Consent. But Mrs. *Bainton* desired Mrs. *Rawlins* to let her have her Ring; which she refused, and at last she forc'd it off her Finger, and went and bought another by it; and getting a Parson and Clerk out of the *Fleet*, and telling her she should be ruin'd for ever if she did not marry Mr. *Swendsen*, and that she must go to *Newgate* and there she must lie; thereupon out of Fear Mrs. *Rawlins* was married to *Swendsen*, and then she was carried from the *Vine Tavern* to one Mr. *Blake's* in *Red-Lion-Street* in *Holbourn*, where a Bed was provided and she put to bed by Mrs. *Bainton* about Four of the Clock, where Mr. *Swendsen* came to her, and they lay about two Hours, and then getting up Mr. *Swendsen* carried *Rawlins* alias *Swendsen* before Justice *Baber*, to take a voluntary Oath

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that she was married by her own Consent; but Justice *Baber* refused to do it, saying he had nothing to do to confirm Marriages; that the next Morning Mr. *Swendsen* and Mrs. *Rawlins* were carried before the Recorder, and *Swendsen* committed to Prison. Mr. *Swendsen* in his Defence deny'd his knowing any thing of the Arrest, saying that he only went to bail her when Arrested; said that she married him with her free Consent, and that he had Courted her for some time; that she had shown him singular Signs of her Esteem and Love, had been uneasy if he sat not next to her, had peeled Walnuts for him, and show'd him a great many Marks of her Favour, had been abroad with him and entertain'd by him on Shipboard, &c. had discarded one Mr. *Pugh* that courted her upon his Account. But she denied all these Things in Court, and other Evidences prov'd it plain that he was in the Contrivance of the Arrest. The Jury thereupon found him Guilty.

Mrs. *Bainton* likewise denied her causing Mrs. *Rawlins* to be Arrested; but it was sworn in Court that she paid for the Arrest. She likewise affirmed that Mrs. *Rawlins* was married with her free Consent, and that Mr. *Swendsen* had courted her

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## Haagen Swendsen. 57

her some time before; that she had shown him a great deal of Favour, &c. But this being contradicted by Mrs. Rawlins her self, and others, the Jury found her Guilty likewise, and she received Sentence of Death; but she pleading her Belly, a Jury of Matrons being impanell'd brought her in with Quick Child, and she was afterwards pardon'd.

*John Hartwell* pleaded Ignorance of the Design, tho' by the Management there were very strong Presumptions to the contrary; yet the Jury acquitted him: Upon which the Lord Chief Justice *Holt* told him he had a very merciful Jury. And *John Spur* was likewise acquitted.

When Mr. *Swendsen* received Sentence of Death, he told the Court he was bound to do Mrs. *Bainton* Justice, and said that she was not the Contriver of it, and that it was all done by his Direction, and he desired the Queen might know it.

He having received Sentence of Death was sent back a Prisoner to the *Queen's-Bench* in *Southwark*, where he was frequently visited by Mr. *Hanks* the Chaplain, and Mr. *Ursin* the Danish Minister, who gave this Account of his Behaviour.



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That they visiting him in order to prepare him for Eternity ; he received their Christian Instructions with all the Freedom and Chearfulness possible, being so intent and devout at his Christian Exercise, that he would refuse Admittance to several of his Acquaintance, sending them Word that he was busied in a great and weighty Work, and desired not to be disturbed in those Undertakings that concern'd his future Happiness. And during the whole time from his Condemnation to his Execution was very Penitent and Devout, being often at Private Prayer by himself as well as at Publick Service in the Chappel, and always behaved himself with that Sweetness of Temper and holy Submission to God's Providence, that became a Christian; and that Courtesy to all about him, that when he went out of the Prison to go to Execution he was follow'd with many Tears and Sighs, and indeed the whole Prison in general expressed a great deal of Sorrow for him : And at the Place of Execution deliver'd the Papers following.

*His Paper deliver'd to the Sheriffs.*

**I** AM now going to die, but with this Consolation; That it is for a Crime not specified in the Laws of God; not that I am less grieved that I have offended against her most Sacred Majesty, or the Laws of *England*, but in Point of Conscience tending to the Salvation of my Soul; which thro' the Merits of our blessed Redeemer, with a sincere (I hope) Repentance, will be saved, and live and reign with God the Father and the Son, &c.

It is with a little Joy I can declare as a dying Man, I am innocent in Thought, tho' Guilty by the Law; and I hope the World will do me the Justice to think so. For if the Intent of the Crime be sufficient to taint a Man's Life, tho' the Law should acquit him, it would be Impiety if it should not relieve a Man (I mean as to his Reputation) tho' the Law condemn him. As to Mrs. *Ramlins* her self (whom I would have the World take notice, I do not forgive) it was impossible she should have altered so soon, from what she seemed on our Wedding-Night, but by the Instigation of her Friends I shall not make my self

self a Judge in their Cases, who am my self but a short liv'd Criminal: yet the World must needs think them infinitely to blame to exasperate her to such a furious Prosecution; nor will I judge what their Ends might be, but certainly they must have some Interest in the Matter, to prosecute a Man, who never offended them in the least, unless I was too backward in grateful Promises: However I freely forgive them, and may a just God of Heaven do no less. I know it will be expected, I should say something of the Matter; but while I am endeavouring to vindicate my self, I shall seem uncharitable, therefore I shall say no more than that I refer my self wholly to the Occurrences of my Tryal (and my Case at large) where 'tis remarkable the very Instructions of her own Counsel say no less than that she owned her self to be satisfied, till she was removed from me. The Arrest being the only Circumstance of Weight against me, which I was thro' Inadvertency led into. Tho' I must confess, I knew of it, yet was no Actor in it my self; but those Friends who advised me to it, took the whole Management of it upon themselves; the Design being only to get her from her Guardians, and not to force

## Haagen Swendsen. 61.

her own Inclination one way or another, being confidently assured, if I could purchase such an Opportunity, I could easily gain her Consent, and have liv'd happily with her ; but God the Director of all Things was pleased to order it otherwise.

I cannot chuse but grieve that I should draw another into the same Calamity with me, but, I hope, I have Mrs. *Bainton's* Forgiveness, as I die in Charity with all the World. I have been told since my Imprisonment, of several Imputations which have been laid to my Charge, particularly that I had a Wife in *Denmark*. I hope few will be so uncharitable to imagine I would die with a Lye in my Mouth ; I own I was married, but have no Wife living. Other things they alledge against me are so common to Men, in my most unfortunate Circumstances, that I shall rather refer them to Time to clear me from those Aspersions, than to employ the little Time I have left in such Worldly Business.

Next I must commend the Civility of those about me, and particularly those Divines that had the Care of my Salvation, and with the utmost Pains and Industry fitted me in the great Work,  
in.



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in which I am now so well satisfied, that I scarce know whether Life or Death were most welcome. Among the many things I have yet to ask of Heaven, I beg a Blessing for the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince George together with the whole Realm of *England* and *Denmark*; particularly my Judges, Jury and Accusers. I die a Protestant according to the Canons of the Church of *Denmark*, and in sure and certain Hopes of the Resurrection: I submit my self to the Mercies of God, before whose Tribunal I am shortly to appear to render a full Account for the Good or Evil I have done.

*His Paper delivered to the Ministers, Mr. Ursin a Dane, and Mr. Hainks of the King's-Bench.*

**I** DO believe the World will expect I should say something for their Satisfaction.

That I had a Design to have Mrs. Rawlins for my Wife, is most true. I was told of her by a Neighbour and Friend of hers, and then made a farther Enquiry, and found her Quality such as I might, without any Exceptions, pre-  
sume

## Haagen Swendfen. 63.

sume to; her Father being the Son of a Tradesman. The next was how to get into her Acquaintance; and not knowing how to be introduced, I prevailed with, and persuaded Mrs. *Bainton* to take a Lodging in the same House with Mrs. *Rawlins*, by which means I found easy Access to my Wistres, and was as welcome to the Family, as if I had been one of themselves. I had their Company on board a Ship, where I gave them an Entertainment, and was invited to dine with them, and by degrees I possess'd *Rawlins's* Affection so far, that she seemed uneasy without me, and frequently importun'd for my speedy Return, and oblig'd me to set next to her at Table, saying, if I did not she would not eat, and treated me with many private Caresses, by which Lovers who have not frequent Opportunity of speaking, do by Signs and Tokens express themselves.

I do declare that I had as good Reception as a Lover could wish for, and all the Encouragement imaginable; in-  
somuch that nothing seemed disagreeable to my Intentions, but all things did promise to facilitate my Design with Success; she herself having told me, she was at her own disposal, and would marry

# 64. *The Confession of*

ry to please herself. My Familiarity with Mrs. *Rawlins* before my Marriage was so great, that there was no room for me left to practice Violence upon her ; tho' I must say, I was impatient of Delays, and wished for an Opportunity to accomplish my Desire. But as for the unhappy Contrivance of the Arresting Mrs. *Rawlins*, I had no share in it, but was persuaded to consent to it by Mr. *H* — and his Wife ; and when the Intrigue was brought to Perfection, I comply'd and laid hold of the Opportunity, in order to marry Mrs. *Rawlins*, which with little Difficulty and less Persuasion, I accomplish'd : So having, without any Force or Violence, declared to the Minister that she was at her own disposal, and free to marry me ; which the Minister declared in open Court at my Tryal, after we had been in Bed ; in comes one Mr. *Bennet*, a Constable, with some of Mrs. *Rawlins*'s Relations, who required me to go with them before a Justice of the Peace ; finding they had no Warrant, I refused to give Obedience to their Commands, which created some Dispute ; and my Wife hearing the Noise, came out of the Bed-Chamber, desired me to be quiet, and let her speak to them, which according-

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ly

## Haagen Swendsen. 65

ly she did in these express Words following ; *Cousin, I have married this Gentleman with my own free Consent ; he is my Husband, and this is my Wedding Ring, shewing the Ring on her Finger ; As for Mr. Busby, I will give him under my Hand he shall come into no Trouble, and what would you have more ?* Then said they, if it be so, God bless you both together, and they drank a Flask of Wine or two with me, and then departed. They were no sooner gone, but I ask'd her whether she would be willing to appear and declare what she had said to her Friends to a Justice of the Peace, and she said she would with all her heart : Then we went to Mr. Justice Baber's in York Buildings, and declared the same to him ; he told her he would take Notice of her Face, and bid her stick to that. The next Day about Eleven a Clock came a Constable with a Warrant, and carried us before the Recorder, unto whom she said the same thing over and over. Then said the Recorder ; *Alas ! Child, they made you drunk, and you did not know what you did.* To which she answer'd, *that there were a great many there present that knew her Life and Conversation, that she did not use to be drunk.* And when the Recorder could not prevail



66 *The Confession of H*

vail with her, he conceived that my being personally with her oblig'd her to stand firm to her Marriage; he then order'd me to be pulled away by Force from her, at which she fell a Weeping. How she was afterwards Lectured by her Friends, was sufficiently attested by my Prosecution, Tryal and Sentence; and after I was committed to *Newgate*, I was remov'd by a *Habeas Corpus* to the *Queen's-Bench* Bar to be arraigned, and pleaded Not Guilty to the Indictment, but was allow'd but four Days; when I was brought to my Tryal, I moved for a Council to plead my Cause, as being a Stranger and not acquainted with the Laws of *England*. My Life being thus at Stake, a powerful Interest against me, and the Court not for me, render'd my Case both despicable and deplorable; and as for some of my Evidences I do verily believe they were bribed by the adverse Party, others taken off by sinister Art, and some hinder'd by Force from appearing in Court for me. As for Mr. Justice *Baber*; he shew'd himself but coldly in giving his Testimony, and said, that my Wife did confess before him, That she was married by her own free Consent, but at the same time he added that she seemed very much disorder'd:

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## Haagen Swendsen. 67

disorder'd : As for that Gentleman, I forgive him, and shall leave God to be Judge between him and me. It is to be noted that my Wife did not deny in open Court, that she had made the Declaration aforesaid of her Marriage to Mr. Bennet, the Constable, and others, that Night we were married ; but said *she did not know what she did when she said so* ; and many other Things she positively deny'd upon Oath at my Tryal, which makes me have pity upon her poor Soul, considering she confess'd many Things at Mrs. Bainton's Tryal, which she deny'd upon Oath at mine. The World may see what it is to be a Stranger and unacquainted with the Laws : Nay, I myself heard my Wife openly confess in Court, in Mrs. Bainton's Tryal, *That there was a young Lady in the World who was at her own Disposal, that wished me a good Wife*, and at last confess'd she herself was the Person. Amongst my many Misfortunes I was represented by my Wife's Friends to the Court, to be a Sharper and a Bully ; but I called in and produced several Gentlemen of Repute to give Account of my Life and Conversation, who have accordingly attested the Honesty of my Principles by my Practice.

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68 *The Confession of*

It is further observable how my Jury disagreed about the Verdict. There was one of them Mr. *Erasmus Johnson*, a Person to me altogether a Stranger; for I declare in the Presence of Almighty God, that I do not remember to have been in his Company three times in my Life, except in Church: This Mr. *Johnson* alledg'd, *That none of the Evidence did prove or swear that I had any hand in the Arrest, nor used any Force or Violence to the Gentlewoman, but that she confess'd the Marriage, which was proved by several Witnesses; which render'd my Case so hard, that the said Mr. Johnson insisted upon it to have me discharg'd, according to the Dictates of his Conscience; but at last he was over-rul'd. Since my Conviction I have used all the means I could to procure my Pardon; but finding little or no Probability in it, I am no going to beg for Entrance at the Gate of Mercy in Heaven, which I beseech God to open for me. I expected that my Tryal should be publish'd that the World should see my Treatment, what I have done, and what I have left undone in my Case, but I am informed it may not be printed. I have said this only to do my self Justice, altho' I could say a great deal more of mo-*

## Haagen Swendsen. 69

ment to the Purpose; but my time being so very short and precious, I must employ that little Time to the saving of my most precious Part my Soul. I humbly beseech Mankind to believe me, and that I have said or shall say, are the Words of a dying Man; this is not a time for me to equivocate, nor to go out of the World with a Lye in my Mouth. I do therefore declare, and call the great Omnipotent God of Heaven to my Witness, that I have asserted nothing to the best of my Knowledge, but the whole Truth, nor uttered a Syllable out of Malice or Bitterness of Heart against any Person whatsoever, but so far from it, I do frankly forgive all my Enemies, and beseech God to put it into their Hearts to repent of their Sins.

As for my Wife, I am so much in Charity with her, that I cannot believe the Severity extended to me, did altogether proceed from herself, but her consenting to spill my Blood makes the Guilt her own. God of his great Mercy give her a true Sense of her Crimes, that the heavy Judgment hanging over her Head may not descend upon her.

As for Mrs. *Bainton*, who is likewise under Sentence of Death on the same Account with my self; as I have in the Court,



Court, so I do now again positively declare, she had no hand in the Intrigue of my Marriage, any more than what she did by my Direction and Persuasion. For Mrs. *Bainton* was wholly a Stranger to Mrs. *Rawlins*, until the unhappy Contrivance of my Marriage made them acquainted; neither did I know Mrs. *Bainton* till *June* last past, tho' some have been pleased to say that I kept her Company for three Years, and have had two Children by her; all which I declare is a wrong Notion, and nothing of Truth in it. The only Load I have on my Conscience is her Death, of which I am the unhappy Instrument. I beseech God in his Mercy to move the Queen's Clemency to spare her Life, that her Blood may not rise up in Judgment against me.

As for my self, I am now going to suffer an ignominious Death, for a Crime which my own Conscience doth not accuse me of, but the Rigour of the Law hath made it my unpardonable Crime. And as I forgive all Mankind, so I beg Forgiveness of those, who thro' Inadvertency, or otherwise, I have injured or offended, beseeching God of his great Mercy to vouchsafe them Forgiveness whenever they ask it.

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My

## Haagen Swendsen. 71

My great Comfort is, that I have reconciled my self with my God, and that I die in my Natural Senses, and that short Time I have had since my Tryal, I trust in my Saviour, I have not mispent.

And now, O Lord God, of thy infinite Goodness, hear my Petition, pardon my Offences, and forgive my Sins; forgive mine Enemies; and lay not my Blood to their Charge; but grant that a sincere Repentance may wash away their Guilt.

I am now going out of this Vale of Calamity and Sin to my eternal Repose; where through the Merits of my Saviour Jesus Christ, I hope to see God in his Glory, and so I conclude. O Lord, receive my Soul into thy boundless Mercy, for the Merits of my Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

HAAGEN SWENDSEN,

He was Executed at Sir Thomas A Waters in Southwark, Dec. 1702.

The

*The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

*Samuel Skotland.*

**S**AMUEL SHOTLAND, born in the Parish of *Stepney*, by Trade a Gardener, was indicted at the Sessions-House in the *Old Baily*, the 12th of *December* 1702, upon Eight several Indictments; 1<sup>st</sup>, For a Burglary, in breaking the House of *John Preston*, the 25th of the preceding *October*, and taking thence 4 Brass Pots, 5 Brass Candlesticks, 10 Pewter Dishes and 18 Plates. The 2<sup>d</sup> for another Burglary, for breaking the House of *Benjamin Hoskins*, on the 7th of *October*, and taking thence 4 Dozen of Pewter Plates, 7 Dishes, and other Goods. The 3<sup>d</sup>, For a Burglary, in breaking the Dwelling-house of *James Gould*, on the 6th of *October*, and taking thence a Silver-hafted Knife and Fork, and 10 Books. The 4<sup>th</sup>, For another Burglary, in breaking the House of *Nehemiah Lloyd*, on the 14th of *August*, and stealing 2 Coach Seats, a Livery Coat, and Lining of a Calash. The 5<sup>th</sup>,

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For

## Samuel Shotland. 73

For another Burglary, in breaking the House of *Susannah Willet*, on the 5th of *September*, and stealing a Quilt and other Goods. The 6th, For a Burglary, for breaking the Warehouse of *William Vanluit*, on the 17th of *August*, and taking 91 Yards of Scarlet Cloth. The 7th, For another Burglary, for breaking the House of *William Farmer*, on the 24th of *August*, and taking thence two Brass Pots and other Goods. The 8th time, For another Burglary, in breaking the House of *Susannah Willet*, on the 1st of *July*, and stealing thence Pewter and Linnen. To all which Indictments he pleaded Guilty.

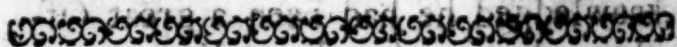
Having received Sentence of Death, he express'd a Sensibleness of his Crimes; acknowledged he had been a great Offender; having for some Years, and particularly the two last, follow'd ill Courses, and very much abandon'd himself to Lewdness and Debauchery, and committed all manner of Wickedness, Murther excepted. That his Sins were so great and so heinous, that he thought they could not be pardoned; and therefore was for some time under Despair; but was afterwards brought to entertain Hopes of Salvation, thro' the infinite Mercies of God, and the All-Sufficiency

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# 74 *The Tryal, &c. of*

ciency of Christ's Merits, and then expressed his Faith in him, and great Repentance for all those enormous Crimes and Robberies that he had committed, which he own'd to be many, and beg'd Pardon of God and Man for them. He was very ignorant of Religion, not being able to Read. At the Place of Execution he desired all the Standers-by to take Warning by him and pray for him. He was Executed at Tyburn the 30th of December 1762, in the 21st Year of his Age, in Company with *John Goff*, alias *White*, alias *Gaffney*, for Robbing the Goldsmiths in *Boswell-Court*, *John Clark*, *Mary Jones*, alias *Elizabeth Hunt*, alias *Beth Hurd*.



## *The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

## *Charles Cooper, &c.*

**C**HARLES COOPER, *Henry Baker*, and *Isaak Mansfield*, were indicted at the Old Baily, for the Murther of *William Blackmore*, Constable of Bow, the

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10th

## Charles Cooper, &c. 75

10th of July 1702. The first Evidence deposed, There came a Company of Men to *Green-Goose-Fair* pretending to be Press-Masters, and came into a Booth and pressed a Man; upon which he cry'd out *Murther!* That thereupon the Constable came, and they left him; and coming to the Booth-door, *Cooper* and *Mansfield* laid hold of another Man and tore his Clothes down to his Shoulders. Upon which the Constable came again, and the Man said he was no Seaman, and would go before a Justice; but the pretended Press-Masters would carry him away without permitting him to go before a Justice. Whereupon the Constable demanded their Warrant, and they having none, he told them they should go all together before a Justice; and as they were going along by *Mile-End* the Man was Arrested by some Bailiffs, who took him away; and as they were going by the End of *Brick-Lane* in *Whitechappel*, a parcel of Fellows met them and knock'd them down, and that *Cooper* having then gotten a Stick, whereas he had none before, he saw him oppose and strike the Constable. Another Evidence deposed, That he saw *Cooper* tear open his Coat and Waistcoat, and knock down the Constable, saying,

76 *The Tryal, &c. of*

he would drive the whole Street of them all. Another Evidence deposed, That *Baker* had a large Cane with a white Head, and that he saw him hold the small End in his Hand, and with the Head of it strike the Constable several Blows after he was knock'd down. There were in all about fifteen Witnesses who swore to the same Effect. The Surgeon deposed, That the Constable's Scull was broken, and that by the Advice of other Surgeons he did trepan it, and found there was a great fracture, which went into his very Brain; that he languished to the 9th Day, and then was taken with a Convulsion, became light-headed, and died the next Day. *Cooper* and *Baker* denied the Fact, alleging that it was done by one *Bowler* that was fled. But there being so many Evidences that were positive to *Cooper* and *Baker*'s striking the Deceased, the Jury found them both Guilty of the said Murther, and they receiv'd Sentence of Death accordingly, but were afterwards pardon'd. But the Evidence not being so strong against *Mansfield*, he was Acquitted.

*The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.*

O F

*William Stanley.*

**W**ILLIAM STANLEY, was born at *Fairford*, in the County of *Gloucester*, and coming to *London* young, was bound Apprentice to a Shoemaker in *Turn-Style* near *Holbourn*, and thinking his Master and Mistress too severe, he sued out his Indenture, when he had about a Year and a half to serve, and went to another Shoemaker at the same Place, with whom he liv'd in the capacity of his Foreman, and was allow'd after the rate of 10 *l.* per *Annum*, besides his Board ; and from thence he went to another Master of the same Trade, near *Lincolns-Inn*, then to another in *Middle-Row Holbourn*, then to another in *Fleet-street*, then to another in *Cheapside*, and last of all to one without *Aldgate*, 'all whom he served very faithfully, and at the last Place had thoughts of setting up for himself; and Marrying a certain young Woman he Courted, and the Match was brought to some forward-

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ness,



78      *The Fryal, &c. of*

ness, but it happened that some Persons gave him an ill Character to the young Woman and her Friends, and so the Match was broken off ; upon which he out of vexation for the disappointment, alter'd his mind as to setting up his Trade, and went and listed himself a Soldier in Captain *Cecil's* Company (who was his Acquaintance) in the Lord *Lucas's* Regiment : But it happening that having been in that Service half a Year his Captain was removed and he quitted it, endeavouring to get into the Life-Guards, but did not effect it : Upon which he falling into bad Company took to Lewdness, Debauchery, and Thieving, which he follow'd for about three Years, and was at length Apprehended and sent to *Newgate*, and was Indicted at the *Old-Baily* on three Indictments, the 18th of *January*, 1702. 1st. For robbing one *John Foster* on a common Foot-way near the Queen's High-way, on the 10th of *December* 1702, and stealing his Clothes ; the Prosecutor deposed, that as he was coming by the *Haberdashers* Hospital at *Hodsdon*, a Man whom he believed to be the Prisoner came to him, and took hold of him, held a drawn Sword at his Breast and led him out of the Way, telling him he would kill him if

if he offer'd to resist, and made him un-  
strip, and left him bound with nothing  
but his Waistcoat on; and that very  
same Night he carried his Clothes to one  
Mr. Chambers in *Drury-Lane* to Pawn,  
who seeing them have some Dirt and  
Blood upon them, suspected they were  
not honestly come by, and the more  
because the Prisoner had before that  
pawned a Watch to him, that was put  
in an Advertisement in the *Gazette*, and  
therefore seized him, and it happened  
that a Friend of the Prosecutors going  
by went in and saw the Clothes, and  
knowing them, acquainted him (the Pro-  
secutor) with it, whereupon he went and  
owned them: The Prisoner upon his  
Tryal deny'd the Fact, saying he met  
with a Man who desir'd him to pawn  
them, and that as to their being bloody  
and dirty, he happened to have a fall  
in the Dirt and his Nose fell a bleeding.  
But this appearing but a pretence, the  
Jury found him Guilty.

He was at the same time a 2d time In-  
dicted, that he and another Person un-  
known did rob *Aquila Clapshaw* on the  
Highway, on the 5th of the said *Decem-  
ber*, of a Watch and a pair of Buckles,  
a Ring set with Emralds, 2 Gold Rings  
and some Money: The Prosecutor de-

posed he was met in a Field on this side *Stepney* by two Men, and he did believe the Prisoner to be one of them, and that putting his Watch in the *Gazette*, Mr. *Chambers* gave him notice that it was pawned to him, that thereupon he went and found it to be his Watch. Mr. *Chambers* deposed that the Prisoner brought it to him. The Prisoner pleaded he had bought the Watch for 3 *l.* 10 *s.* at the Sign of the *Ship* in *Ship-Yard* near *Temple-Barr*, and that he was at that House at that time when the Fact was Committed, but he not being able to prove it, the Jury found him Guilty of this Indictment likewise.

He was also Indicted a 3<sup>d</sup> time, for the Murther of *John Elliot* a Watch-man, on the said 10th of *December*: The Evidence deposed, that the Prisoner coming to Mr. *Chambers* to pawn some Clothes, Mr. *Chambers* endeavour'd to stop him, on account of a Watch he had pawn'd to him, and that had been Advertised in the *Gazette*, but that the Prisoner made his escape from him, and he being pursued, and they crying out *Stop him, stop him*, he ran along with his Sword drawn, and *John Elliot* the Watch-man endeavouring to stop him, he thrust his Sword into the left part of

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his

## William Stanley. 81

his Belly, near the Groin, and wounded him that he dyed immediately. There were several Evidences that swore positively against him. The Prisoner pleaded in his Defence, that he was much in Drink at that time, and did not know whether he did it or no; he alledged several other trifling Matters, but the Jury being fully satisfied, found him Guilty of Wilfull Murther.

He having been Cast upon these 3 Indictments received Sentence of Death accordingly; after which he began with seriousness to reflect upon the mispent last Years of his Life, acknowledging, he had been very neglectfull of the Service of God, and guilty of many Crimes, as Sabbath breaking, Profaneness, Swearing, Drunkenness, Whoredom, Adultery, and keeping bad Company, all which he said he then found had contributed to his ruin, and brought him to that Shameful Death: He readily confessed the Murther that he had Committed on *John Elliot*, but yet deny'd the two Robberies on the High-way that he was found guilty off, but the Ordinary pressing him to clear his Conscience, he did at length own his being concerned in them, saying he being but a young Man was easily drawn in to those



## 82 *The Tryal, &c. of*

ill Practices, and other Robberies, by some Persons he had of late, especially for the last three Years kept Company with, wishing they might take warning by the Shameful Death (he was to Suffer for those Crimes) jointly Committed both by him and them, and by their speedy Amendment prevent their falling under the same Condemnation. Being at the Place of Execution he made a short Speech to the Spectators to this Effect ; That all young Men and others would take warning by him, and avoid all manner of ill Company, and particularly that of Lewd Women, and that those Persons who saw him come to suffer for his Sins would pray to God for his poor Soul. He was Executed at Tyburn the 26th of January, 1704, in the 19th Year of his Age.



## *The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

## *Toothless Tom.*

**T**OM JONES alias *Toothless Tom*, so called by reason of his having had his Teeth knocked out by a Man  
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## Toothless Tom. 83

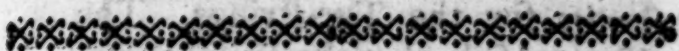
whose Pocket he attempted to pick; was born at *Omston* in *Yorkshire*, had been Apprentice to a Barber and Periwig maker, but did not follow it long, but falling into bad Company took to Thieving; he was Indicted at the *Old Baily* the 10th of *March*, 1703, for Felony and Burglary, for breaking the House of *Richard* Lord Bishop of *Peterborough*, in the Night time, and stealing thence the Bishop's Episcopal Robes, a Hair Trunk, 4 Holland Shirts, 13 Guineas, and 40 Shillings in Money, and divers other Goods; the Property of Mr. *John Parsons*: It appeared by the Evidence he had got into the House, at a Window, stolen the Goods and given Orders to a Taylor to make him a pair of Breeches of a *Shewar* that was part of the Goods; when *Jones's* Wife was Apprehended some of the Goods were found in her Custody, and *Thomas Jones* to clear her said she was clear of the Matter: said he had the Goods and he expected to be hanged between Heaven and Earth for the same; but upon his Tryal he deny'd it, saying his Wife found them and gave them to him, but he could prove nothing, and had been an old Offender, the Jury thereupon found him Guilty. However when he was under Condemnation

## 84 *The Tryal, &c. of*

nation and had no hopes of a Reprieve, he confessed the Fact, and that he had Committed many other Robberies and Burglaries within the space of 5 Years, that he had fallen into bad Company, and that about 4 Years since he was try'd for his Life at the *Old Baily*, and came off, because the Evidence was not strong enough to Convict him, yet he was guilty of the Fact. He said that his Name was not *Thomas Jones*, but would not tell his Father's Name, because he was (as he said) born of very good Parents, and he would not bring a Reproach upon the Honest and Pious Family, adding, That his Relations had not heard from him ever since he had taken ill Courses, which was about 5 years before, part of which time he had spent in the Service of the Crown, sometimes at Sea and sometimes at Land, and that the last Service he was in was under Colonel *Holmes*, in the 2d Regiment of the Queen's Guards. He wished all others especially such as had fallen from a good Education, might take warning by his Death; he professed a sorrow for his mispent Life, and was Executed at *Tyburn* the 22d of *March*, 1704, Aged 23 Years, in Company with *William Williams*, and *Thomas Williams*, for robbing

## William Williams. 85

on the Highway, and *William Barrow* for killing the Watchman.



### *The* T R Y A L, &c.

O F

### *William Williams.*

**W**ILLIAM WILLIAMS, born at *Landavery* in the County of *Carmarthen* in *Wales*, was indicted at the *Old Baily* the 10th of *March* 1704, for Robbing *Hugh Hartshorne* on the Highway, and stealing from him a Cloth Coat and 3 *l.* in Money. The Prosecutor depos'd, That as he and his Son was coming from *Stepney* to *London* about 7 a Clock in the Evening, he was met by the Prisoner and one *Stanley*, who was Executed the Sessions before; that they past them and bid them Good Night, but turned back and seized upon him, and both of them drawing their Swords, held them to his Breast, and one of them prick'd him in the Breast, and took his Money, and told him they wanted his Watch; that then they carried him

gross.



cross the Fields and bound him, and left him in a Ditch. He was positive the Prisoner was the Man, for he called to *Stanley* for the Tye-strings. The Boy also deposed, that the Prisoner was one of them; for whilst they were busie in binding his Father he ran away from them, but the Prisoner ran after him and fetch'd him again. The Prisoner having very little to say in his Defence the Jury found him Guilty.

Being under Sentence of Death, and having no Hopes of a Reprieve, he confess'd the Fact, and owned he had committed several other Robberies of the like Nature; but said, that since his Confinement, he had made the best Reparation he could, by giving such Intelligence to the Persons he had wrong'd, and such Advice to such as had brought him into these unlawful Practices, and all others concerned with him therein, as he was bound and able to do. He confess'd that he was before this under Condemnation, having been once try'd and justly received Sentence of Death at the Assizes at *Aylesbury*, which now was a great Grief that it had not that Effect upon him to amend his Life, but that he had still gone on in his sinful Course of Swearing, Drinking, Whoring, Pro-  
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faning

saning the Lord's Day, &c. and injuring his Neighbour. For all which he begged Pardon of God and Man. At the Place of Execution he desired the Spectators to take warning by him: He was hang'd at Tyburn the 22<sup>d</sup> of March, 1704.



The T R Y A L, &c.

O F

John Smith.

**J** O H N S M I T H, born in the Town of *Winchcomb* in *Gloucestershire*, of reputable Parents, and brought up to good Learning, till the Age of 13 Years; was afterwards put Apprentice to a Barber and Perriwig-Maker in *Burford* in *Oxfordshire*: But left them and travelled into several Foreign Countries, and then returning to *London*, followed his Trade as a Journey-man for several Years, but unfortunately became acquainted with some Young Men that used to frequent the Dancing-Houses, with whom he contracted so intimate a Familiarity that

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he could not leave them; and their Acquaintance brought him into the Company of several lewd Women, who led him to all manner of Vice; so that to maintain his Extravagancies he was induced to take ill Courses. And being familiarly acquainted with a Perriwig-maker then living in *Chancery-Lane*, he one Day in Discourse asked him to go with him in order to Rob upon the Highway, which he consenting to, they went out on *Sunday* in the Afternoon, the 29th of *October*, near *Paddington*; where they having walked up and down some time waiting for a Booty, he rested himself upon a Stile with in sight of *Tyburn*, and reflecting with himself upon sight of the Gallows, his Heart misgave him, thinking within himself that some time or other he should come to end his Life, where he was now beginning to Rob. He told his Companion his Apprehension, and would have perswaded him to have gone home again with him; but he would not hearken to him, but egged him on, saying to him, What matter's it *Jack*? 'tis but Hanging, if thou shouldest come to that; so they proceeded. And one *William Birch* coming by, riding upon a black Mare, they stole his Mare. Upon

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which the next Day, being *Monday* the 30th of *October*, he set out alone upon that Mare, and robbed three Stage-Coaches by *Epping-Forest*. The *Wednesday* following, being the 1st of *November*, he robbed three other Stage-Coaches near *St. Albans*. And lastly, he robbed Mr. *Woodcock's* Coach on *Finchly-Common*, the 6th of *November*, for which he was apprehended. And was indicted at the *Old Baily* the 6th of *December* 1704, upon four Indictments: 1st. For robbing Esquire *Woodcock* on the Highway, and taking from him a Silver Watch with a Chain, a Cornelian Ring set in Gold, and Ten Shillings in Money, the 6th of *November*. Esquire *Woodcock* deposed, That as he, his Lady, and Mrs. *Ann Montague*, were riding in his Coach over *Finchly-Common*, a Man came to the Coach-side with a Mask on, and demanded his Mony, and he gave it him, and he seeing the Key of his Watch hang out, commanding him to deliver him that immediately, swearing if he did not, he would shoot him through the Head, that thereupon he gave him that and the Ring. The second Indictment for Robbing *Elizabeth* the Wife of *Thomas Woodcock*, Esq; on the 6th of *November*, on the Highway, and taking from



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from her a Silk Purse, two Keys, and four Guineas. The third Indictment was for robbing *Ann Montague* at the same Time, and taking from her a Silk Purse and Three Shillings in Money. *Ann Montague* deposed, That he took her Money from her in the Manner before described. He was indicted a fourth Time for robbing one *William Birch* on the Highway, on the 29th of *October*, and stealing from him a Grey Mare, value 8 *l*. The Prosecutor deposed, as he was riding between *Acton* and *London*, near *Paddington*, at a Place called *Bays Watering*, he saw two Men on foot, and one of them laid hold of his Bridle and made him dismount, and they both got up upon the Mare and rode away with her, and that he did verily believe *Smith* was the Person that laid hold of his Horse's Bridle, but he was sure the Mare taken when *Smith* was apprehended was the Mare which was taken from him. The first Evidence deposed that he saw *Smith* upon *Finchly-Common* about 9 a Clock in the Morning, by a Place called the *Woodhouse*, and that he looked upon him and was praising his Mare, and that he observed him riding to and fro on the *Common* till 12 of the Clock, and then saw him ride up to a Coach, which

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he let pass; that he taking Notice of him and thinking him to be a Highway-Man, he went and called one of his Neighbours; and then they saw another Coach coming along, and he rode past it, but turning back again, rode up to the Coach and bid them stand, and robbed the People who were in the Coach, and rode away, but they pursued him, and he finding himself likely to be taken, took into a Wood, and left his Horse ty'd to a Bush. Serjeant *Bonithan* deposed, That he riding that Way with his Man, and hearing there had been a Robbery committed, pursued the Thief into a Wood called *Colefall*, and order'd his Man to ride into the Wood, while he rode round to see if he made his Escape out of the Wood, and that in searching they found the Grey Mare ty'd to a Bush, and then thought they were near him, and by that time there were 7 or 8 Men more came to their Assistance; and at last a Huntsman espy'd *Smith* lying under a Tree, who advancing toward him with a Blunderbuss, *Smith* desired him not to shoot him and he would surrender himself, and do no Mischief; upon which he shot off his two Pistols into the Air, and then one of the Men laid hold of him

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him and carried him to *Muzzle-Hill*, where they search'd him and found the Watch and Purfes, a Mask, some Powder and Bullets, besides Money. And then he told them, *he would have made his Escape but that the Mare was a Jade.* Upon which he committed him to *Newgate*, and afterwards upon Enquiry the Mare and the rest of the Things were owned. However upon his Tryal he deny'd the Fact, saying, as he was going into *Yorkshire* upon a Bay Gelding, near *Coney Hatch* he met with two Men who took his Gelding from him, and one of them told him if he went to such a Place, he should find a Mare ty'd to a Bush, and as he was going away one of them flung him a Handkerchief in which the Purfes and Watch were, which were found upon him. He likewise said he was prosecuted for the Lucre of 40*l.* The Jury found him Guilty.

Being under Sentence of Death, he behaved himself as one that was sensible of his Sins, bewailing the Errors of his mispent Life; and at the Place of Execution read a Paper, and afterwards gave it to the *Ordinary*, wherein he related the Particulars abovementioned, and declared that he was but a Robber of eight Days standing, having committed

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ted his first Robbery on the 29th of *October*, and his last the 6th of *November* following, and concluded thus: ' I humbly beg for the Lord's sake, that all young Men that I leave here behind, will take Warning by my untimely Death; and especially I beg of all you young Men of my Acquaintance and Companions, that you will take Warning in time, and avoid Dancing-Houses, and all ill Company, and remember my last Dying Words, least some of you come to the same End, which I pray God you may not; for this that I suffer, is but the just Punishment of my Wickedness in this World. And I do declare to the World, that I never was Guilty of any Murder in all my Life-time; and I pray God that every body whom I have wronged, will forgive me. For were I able to make Satisfaction, I should be very willing to do it; but as I am not, I hope my Life will be Satisfaction to them all. And whosoever have wronged me, I do from the bottom of my Heart forgive them, and all the World, for what Injury any Man has done me, and I die in Charity with all the World, and the Lord Jesus Christ receive my Soul. Having read this to the Spectators



94 *The Tryal, &c. of*

ctators and deliver'd it to the *Ordinary*,  
and perform'd his private Devotions.  
He was Executed at *Tyburn* the 20th of  
*December, 1704.*



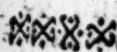
*The TRYAL, &c.*

O F

*Mary Price.*

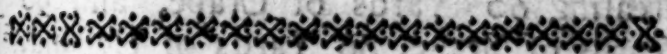
**M**ARY PRICE, alias *Harrington*,  
of the Parish of *Eling*, was in-  
dicted at the *Old Baily* the 27th of *April*,  
1704, for the abominable Sin of Bestiali-  
ty committed with a Dog, on the 15th  
of *March* last. The Evidence against  
her was a Girl, who lived in a Room  
one pair of Stairs in the same House  
where the Prisoner liv'd, who deposed,  
That there being a Hole in the Floor,  
and the Cielling broken through, where-  
by she could see into the Prisoner's Room,  
at Night about 8 or 9 a Clock, she being  
above Stairs, and there being a Light in  
the Prisoner's Room, she saw the Priso-  
ner sitting in a Chair by the Fire-side,  
leaning backwards; and that she took  
[Vol. II.] the

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the Dog to her, who she said acted to her as with a Bitch: The Prisoner deny'd the Fact, alledging that she was Prosecuted out of Malice, that the Evidence and her Mother had several times done her injuries in her Goods and Clothes, by throwing down Soap-Suds and other things which came through the Ceiling and spoiled them: She produced some Evidences, who deposed there had been Quarrels between the Prosecutors Mother and the Prisoner; upon the whole the Jury acquitted her.



The TRYAL, &c.

OF

*French Peter.*

PETER BENNET, alias *French Peter*, alias *Peter Flomer*; was born of honest Parents at *Niort* in the Province of *Poitou* in *France*, but brought into *England* very young, and put to a Silk Weaver,

## 96 The Tryal, &c. of

Weaver, which Trade he follow'd about 2 Years in *Spittle-Fields*, and then went into the King's Service, and served both King *William* and Queen *Anne*, at Sea and afterwards in the Land Service, and was actually in the 2d Regiment of Foot Guards, under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel *Braddock* at the time when he was Apprehended, but falling into bad Company he betook himself to Thieving, and was one of *Moll Raby's* Gang. He was indicted at the *Old Bailey* the 12th of *October*, 1704, upon 7 Indictments. 1st. For breaking the House of *John Annis* on the 29th of *April*, and stealing 60 Yards of Crape, and 90 Yards of Serge, 66 Yards of Holland, and 12 pair a Stockings; but for want of Evidence he was acquitted of this Indictment: He was indicted a 2d time for breaking the House of *Thomas Abbot* the 13th of *April*, and stealing 25 dozen of Handkerchiefs, a Guinea and other Goods; and the Evidence against him being deficient he was acquitted of this indictment likewise; he was indicted a 3d time for breaking the House of *Luke Sapsford* the 14th of *April*, with an intent to steal his Goods, but the Evidence not being full enough against him he was acquitted of that; he was

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indicted a 4th time for Breaking the House of *Samuel Palmer* on the 27th of the same Month, and stealing 5 Silver Spoons, a Sword and other Goods, but the Evidence not bringing the Matter home to him he was acquitted of that also. He was a 5th time indicted, for breaking the House of *Henry Gibbs* the same 27th of *April*, and stealing thence 8 *India* Curtains, 4 *Vallaince*, a *Squab*, Sheets, &c. but the Evidence being deficient he was acquitted of that likewise. He was a 6th time indicted for breaking the House of *Isaac Bird*, the 2d of *May* in the Night time, and stealing a Ham of Bacon, 5 Bottles of Cyder, and a Paper of Tobacco : The Evidence deposed as you may see in the Tryal of *Thomas Hunter*, (who was Executed for the same Fact and other Offences) and that *Peter Bennet* was in their Gang, and apprehended ; the Jury found him guilty of the Felony but acquitted him of the Burglary. He was a 7th time indicted, for breaking the House of *Margaret Christian*, the 2d of *May*, and stealing a *Cheshire* Cheese, a Gallon of Brandy, and a Pound of Sugar-Cakes, &c. The Evidence against the Prisoner was much the same with that against *Thomas Hunter*, only with this addition, That the Con-



98 *The Fryal, &c. of*

stable deposed, that at the time when he apprehended *Hunter*, &c. he met *Arnold*, who now had made himself an Evidence, and *Bennet* with the Cheese upon his Head, which was owned to be hers by Mrs. *Christian*, and that when he and another Pursued them, *Bennet* threw down the Cheese and ran away; *Arnold* in his Information had charged *Bennet* with the Committing this Burglary, but when upon his Tryal he came to give Evidence against him he prevaricated, and said that this was none of the same Person, and that there was another *French Peter*; but the Constable and the Evidences being positive that this was the same Person, who had the Cheese on his Head, the Jury found him guilty of both the Felony and Burglary. Being under Condemnation and having no hopes of a Pardon, he having been so Notorious an Offender and before received Mercy, he began to reflect upon his past ill spent Life, and did acknowledge that he with *Thomas Hunter* and *Arnold* did break the House of Mr. *Annis* and steal the Goods mentioned in the Indictment. That they divided the Holland and Stockings amongst them, and his Companions sold the Grape and Serge for 9 l. and he had 3 for his share, and that himself with

[Vol. II.]

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## French Peter.

99

*Thomas Hunter, Arnold, and Sebastian Rice*, did steal the Handkerchiefs and Goods of *Thomas Abbot*, and sold the Goods to a Broker for 4 l. and that he and the forementioned Persons Committed the Fact at the House of *Margaret Christian*, eat the Sugar-Cakes and drank the Brandy, and that he was carrying the Cheese as the Constable deposed, and 4thly, That they did also break *Luke Sapsford's* House, as mentioned in the Indictment; and that they did also Commit the Robbery at *Mr. Gibbs's* House, and shared the Goods amongst them; as also that Robbery on *Mr. Palmer's* and *Mr. Bird's*; and that he had Committed several other Robberies and Burglaries with *Thomas Hunter* and *Sebastian Rice*, but had forgotten the Particulars; but that he and the same Persons did break a certain House in a payed Court in *Fetter-Lane*, and stole 23 Guineas and 5 l. in Money, a Silver Salt, a Silver-hilted Sword, a long Periwig, Silver Spoons and Forks, a Hat and other Goods; that they flung the Sword into a Cellar in *Fec-Lane*, and sold the Plate and Wig to one *William Buxton*, an harbourour of ill People, and buyer of stolen Goods, living in *Church-Lane* in *White-Chapel*; and that the Hat he wore at the time of

# 100 The Tryal, &c. of

his Condemnation, but it was then not worth restoring. He being at the Place of Execution thus spake to the Spectators, I suppose there are some here who have been engaged in ill Things, I know there are, I beseech them to amend their Lives, and I beg that all that see me here would take warning by me, I am a very young Man, a Lad not above 24 or 25 Years of Age, but a grievous Sinner, and I am now to dye for my wicked Life: Pray Gentlemen take warning by me, and pray for me, that God would have Mercy on my poor Soul. He was Executed at Tyburn the 25th of October, 1704.

## \*\*\* The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

O F

## Sebastian Rice.

**A**UGUSTIN, alias SEBASTIAN, alias SILVESTER RICE, born at Minichen in the Electorate of Bavaria in Germany, was by Trade a Shoemaker, but listing himself for a Soldier, served for some

con-

considerable time in the Emperor's Army, and after that under King *William* in *Flanders*; but coming to *England*, and being disbanded after the Peace, followed his Trade again in the Parish of *St. James's Westminster*, for about 4 Years, and married an *Englishwoman*, a Protestant, though he himself was educated in the *Romish Religion*: but afterwards falling into loose and wicked Company, quitted his Trade and took to Thieving, and was indicted at the *Old Baily* the 1st of *June* 1704, upon two Indictments for Burglary. The first for breaking the House of *Luke Sapsford* in *Ratcliff-Highway*, on the 14th of *April* the same Year, with an Intent to steal his Goods. The Constable and Watchmen deposed, that as they were going their Rounds they saw a Light in Mr. *Sapsford's* Cellar, and upon that went to see how it was, and found the House was broken, and that the Thieves were in it; upon which they crying out Thieves, one of them cock'd a Pistol and held it at the Constable's Breast, who struggling with him, he fired the Pistol but it missed the Constable; that then he fired again, and shot the Constable through the Hat, and the Watchman into the Shoulder, and by that Means they got away. One of



# 102 The Tryal, &c. of

their Accomplices deposed, that himself, the Prisoner, and some others broke open the House with a Betty, with Intent to steal the Goods. Another Evidence deposed, that after they had been gone for an Hour, they came again and fired at the Watchmen, and would have killed him, by reason he had disappointed them in their Robbery. The Prisoner denied the Fact upon his Tryal, but it did not avail him. The Jury found him Guilty of the Indictment. And he was indicted a second time for breaking the House of *Thomas Abbot*, on the 13th of April, and stealing twenty-five Dozen of Handkerchiefs, a Hood and Scarf, 2 Guineas, and 20 s. and 6 d. in Money. It appear'd that he and some others had broken open the House with a Betty and stolen the Goods, and that he had been an old Offender, and had broke out of the *Garthouse* through a Wall four Foot thick. The Jury found him Guilty of this Indictment likewise. Being under Condemnation he owned he was guilty of Robbing Mr. *Abbot*, but to extenuate his Crime, he said he was drawn in to commit it by the Evidence that swore against him: but as to the breaking Mr. *Sapsford's* House, he would not own that he was concerned in that, any otherwise

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## Thomas Hunter. 103

wife than that he knew of it, and should have gone and joined with those that committed it, but came too late. But said he was never Guilty of any such Facts before. He said as he was brought up a *Roman* Catholick, so he would die in that Faith. He professed a Sorrow for the Sins of his past Life. He was executed at *Tyburn* the 21<sup>st</sup> of *May* 1704, in Company with *Thomas Hunter*.

## The LIFE, TRIAL, &c.

OF

## Thomas Hunter.

**T**HOMAS HUNTER, alias *Sir ROBERT*, was born in the Parish of *St. Botolph* without *Bishopsgate*, of very honest Parents, but he was a disobedient Son to them, and would neither be rul'd by them, nor take any notice of the good Instructions they gave him, nor receive the Education that they would have given him, he was then put to serve a Silver-Spinner who liv'd near his Mother's House without *Bishopsgate*, with

# 104 *The Tryal, &c. of*

whom he liv'd seven Years; but complaining of his Master's Severity he would stay no longer with him, but went away and entred himself as a Servant in an Ordinary in *St. Nicholas-Lane*, where his chief Business was to look after the Cellar as a Cooper: And having been there about twelve Months, he removed from thence to a Victualling-House in *Eastcheap*, but there he staid but a little while before he went to Sea in the *Ruffel*, a third Rate Ship commanded by Capt. *Townsend*, and was on board the said Ship when she went upon the Expedition to *Belle Isle in France*. But having been about 7 Months in that Service he ran away from it; and falling into ill Company betook himself to Thieving, and was apprehended and convicted *January 1704*, at the *Old Bailey* for privately stealing Goods out of the Shop of Monsieur *Mosette*, a *Frenchman*, for which he being convicted was order'd into the Service, and accordingly list'd by Capt. *Belford* belonging to a Marine Regiment. But when his Captain had taken him out of *Newgate*, and given him Liberty to go to see his Mother and Friends, he instead of returning to him at the appointed time, betook himself to his old Trade of Thieving and

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## Thomas Hunter. 105

and robbed several Goldsmiths, one at *Charing-Cross*, where there being no Body in the Shop but an Ancient Woman, he stole a Glass in which there were Rings, Plate, and other Things, and ran up *St. Martins-Lane* with it, and carried it off though they pursued him, crying Stop Thief. And afterwards, he with one *Jacob Valt*, a Dutchman, stole a pair of Buckles from one Mr. *Dingley*, a Goldsmith, in *Bishopsgate-Street*. And on the 11th of February 1704, he and *Richard Lewis* and *Jacob Valt*, in the Evening, set out upon a Design to rob some Goldsmiths in *Lombard-Street*, and accordingly came to the Shop of Mr. *Fordham*, and while *Dick Lewis* and *Jacob Valt* were standing at some distance to look out and be ready to assist, he took away a Glass in which were Goods to a considerable Value, which he carried clear off to *Lewis's House*, broke open the Glass and took out the Things, which *Lewis* put into his Handkerchief and into his Pocket, and then they carried the Glass into *Red-lion-Fields* and buried it in the Ground: And then to avoid being suspected, made all the haste they could to the *Dog-Tavern* at *Newgate*, where *Summers* the Thief-taker came to them and read a Paper which Mr. *Ford-*



106 *The Tryal, &c. of*

*ham* had sent abroad concerning his *Loss*, and *Summers* thereupon asking them all, and particularly *Hunter*, if he knew any thing of it; they answer'd *No*, though *Richard Lewis* had in his Pocket at the same time all the Goods mention'd in that Paper. But to remove all Suspicion of the Robbery from themselves, they immediately went to Mr. *Segar's* in the *Old Baily*, where they staid a little while and talked of the Matter; but denying they knew any thing of it, they went to the *Three-Tun-Tavern* on *Luigate-Hill*, and there went to Dice with other of their Acquaintance that were there, and *Hunter* and *Valt* lost between them 10*l*. which *Lewis* had lent them: Then they went all to *Lewis's* House and digged a Hole in his Cellar, and buried the Goods of Mr. *Fordham*, which *Lewis* had all this while carried in his Pocket. Soon after this *Jacob Valt* was sent to the Compter on Suspicion of stealing the Buckles from Mr. *Dingley*; so they then went and removed the Goods from the Cellar into the Chimney in Mr. *Lewis's* House, for fear *Jacob Valt* should discover it, being in Custody. In the mean time *Lewis* acquainted Mr. *Segar* that he could procure the Goods: He acquainted Mr. *Fordham* with it, and he agreeing to give

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him a certain Sum for to have them, Segar's Wife went with Lewis's Wife to Lewis's House, and had the Goods delivered to her, and Hunter had 12 or 14 Guineas for his Share. So now being got clear of this Matter, he went to his old Trade again and committed several Robberies, and was at last apprehended and committed to Newgate, and try'd at the Old Bailey the 1st of June 1701, on 4 Indictments. The first for breaking the House of Isaac Bird on the 2d of May then last past, in the Night time, and stealing thence a Ham of Bacon, 5 Bottles of Cyder, and 2 Papers of Tobacco. The Prosecutor deposed, that his House was broken and his Goods stolen, and he hearing there were some Men apprehended by the Constable, he went and found the Prisoner with the Goods upon him. The Constable deposed, that going off the Watch in the Morning, he saw Hunter and some others coming along much in Drink, and so he apprehended him. Another of his Accomplices deposed, that they broke open the Prosecutor's Cellar-door with a Betty, and that Hunter took the Ham, saying, it would serve him for his Wedding-Dinner, he was to be married to Morrow. However he denied the Fact upon.

# 108 *The Tryal, &c. of*

upon his Tryal, and said he knew not the Evidences ; but it was well known to the contrary, and the Jury found him Guilty of this Indictment. He was indicted a second time for breaking the House of *Margaret Christian*, and stealing a *Cheshire-Cheese*, a *Bottle of Brandy*, and a *Pound of Sugar-Cakes*. The Prosecutor deposed, her House was broken open and the Goods stolen. And one of his Accomplices swore that he and *Hunter* did the Robbery ; and being in Drink, they made every one drink Brandy and Cyder they met till they were stopp'd by the Constable. He was also indicted a third time for breaking the House of *Henry Gibs*, the 28th of *April* before, and taking thence 8 *Indian Curtains*, 4 *Vallaince*, a *Squab*, and other Goods. One of his Gang deposed, that the *Sash-Window* being left open, one of the Accomplices got in, handed out the Goods to the rest, and *Hunter* with the others carried them away. The Jury acquitted him of the Burglary on this Indictment, but found him Guilty of the Felony. He was likewise a fourth time indicted for breaking the House of *Samuel Farmer* the 28th of *April* before, and stealing thence 5 *Silver Spoons*, a *Sword*, and other Goods. It appear-

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ed that a Hole had been broken over the  
Prosecutor's Door by *Hunter* and his Ac-  
complices, and the Goods stolen out of  
the Kitchen. The Fact was plainly pro-  
ved on him, and tho' he denied it, the  
Jury found him Guilty of the Indict-  
ment, and he received Sentence of  
Death accordingly. Being under Sen-  
tence of Death, the *Ordinary* gives this  
Account of him : That he was very ig-  
norant of Religion, not being able to  
Read, by reason of his Obstinacy in re-  
fusing to receive that Learning his Pa-  
rents would have given him, which he  
then lamented ; but yet was very ready  
to hearken to Good Advice, acknowled-  
ged he had been a great and incorrigible  
Sinner, was guilty of all the Facts for  
which he was to dye, and also a great  
many others ; he desired the pardon of  
his Sins from God, and Forgiveness from  
those Persons he had wronged, and  
whereas he had nothing wherewith to  
make them Satisfaction, he desired God  
would bless them and prosper their En-  
deavours : He desired all Persons to take  
warning by him, and to avoid the Sins  
that had brought him to this untimely  
End, and especially Gaming, to which  
he was much addicted, which had been  
the chief thing that had led him into  
those



## no The Tryal, &c. of

those irregular Practices, that had brought him to that untimely End. He was Executed at Tyburn the 21st of May, 1704, in the 23d Year of his Age, in Company with *Sebastian Rice*, for breaking the House of *Luke Sapsford* in *Radcliff Highway*.

\*\*\*\*\*

## The TRYAL, &c.

OF

*John Wills.*

**J**OHNS WILLS of *St. Margaret Westminster*, Gentleman, was indicted at the *Old Baily*, for the Murther of *Joseph Derry*, on the 4th of May, 1706. He was also indicted upon the Coroners Inquest and Statute of Stabbing: Mrs. *Derry* deposed, That her Husband and Mr. *Wills* came to her House on *White-Sunday*, where there were some other Persons, that they eat and drank together, and a Reckoning was called, and one of the Company said, that the Women should pay 12d. a piece, that Mr. *Wills* made Answer, that the Women should

should not pay any thing in their Hus-  
bands Company, and flung down ~~Drury~~  
for his Wife and self, and was going  
away out of Humour, having not drank  
up his Cyder; and that being got out of  
the Room, her Husband Mr. Drury said  
he was a sorry Rascal not to stay and  
drink his Cyder, which he hearing turn'd  
back again, and words arose, and after  
some time the Wound was given: Ano-  
ther Evidence deposed to the same ef-  
fect, adding that when Mr. Wills came  
in again he asked who it was that called  
him Rascal? To which Mr. Drury re-  
ply'd, it was he, that then they gave  
one another ill Words, and Mr. Wills said  
he would not be exereis'd by him, and  
then he was going away again, and Mr.  
Drury caught him by the Sleeve and  
brought him back, and words arising,  
Mr. Wills said he would have Satisfac-  
tion, and would meet him the next Morn-  
ing at the Cock-Pit, that then they went  
together to the Window, and there was  
a Sword drawn in Mr. Wills's Hand, but  
nothing in Mr. Drury's, nor did he strike,  
and while they were together the Pri-  
soner stabbed him, and the Deceased let  
go his hold of Mr. Wills's Sleeve, and  
drop'd down in a Chair and dy'd; and  
then the Company seizing him, and say-  
ing

ing he had killed Mr. Derry, Mr. Willis made Answer, *I hope not, O Lord I have killed an honest Man, and am sorry for it.* The Jury considering the Matter, acquitted him of the Murther, but found him guilty of Manslaughter on the Coroners Inquest, and also guilty on the Statute of Stabbing; and he received Sentence of Death: While he lay under Condemnation he behaved himself with much seeming Contrition, said he was about 33 Years of Age, born of very honest Parents in the County of Devon, had been 16 Years in the Service of the Crown; first under the Command of Capt. Spire, in Colonel Titcomb's Regiment in Ireland, and afterwards under that of Capt. Powel, in the Duke of Marlborough's Regiment in Flanders; in both which he served in the capacity of a Sergeant, and that he had also rode in the Earl of Oxford's Regiment, and last of all in the Regiment of the Life Guards for about 12 Months: He acknowledged he had done a very ill thing in killing Mr. Derry, who was his particular Friend, for whom he had a great kindness, but said he was provoked: He heartily begged pardon of God and Man, both for that and all other Miscarriages of this Life; which (this bloody Fact excepted)

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## Thomas Dickson. 113

cepted) he said were no other but such as were common to Mankind, and those of his Profession: He shew'd visible signs of Penitence. He was Executed at Tyburn in 33d Year of his Age, the 19th of July 1706, in Company with *Benjamin Arnold*, for breaking the House of *Robert Crossfield*.

\*\*\*\*\*

## The T R Y A L, &c.

O F

## Thomas Dickson.

**T**HOMAS DICKSON alias *Dickinson*, was indicted at the *Old Bailey*, for breaking the House of *Joseph Fury*, Esq; at *Bethnal Green*, in the Night time, the 28th of *March*, 1707, and stealing 1 Silver Spoon, 3 dozen of Pewter Plates, 3 Brass Candlesticks, 66 Pewter Dishes, 6 *China* Cups, 20 l. weight of Cheese, a Breast of Mutton, &c. the Goods of *Joseph Fury*; a Silver Coffee-Pot, a Silver Spoon, Clothes and other Goods of *Nathaniel Hodges*; Muslin Head-



Head-cloths, &c. of *Mary Howel*; It appeared by the Evidence, that the House was safe at One of the Clock, and when they rose at 6 in the Morning a Window was broken and an Iron Bar bent that a Man might get in, and when the Prisoner was apprehended divers of these Goods were found upon him; the Prisoner had little to say for himself, and was an old Offender, the Jury found him guilty of the Indictment: Being under Condemnation he gave this Account of himself; That he was about 70 Years of Age, born at *Waltham-Abby* in *Essex*, and had lived a great while in and about *London*, that for the greatest part of his Life he had lived honestly by his Industry, being a Labouring Man, but had of late Years been induced by those that had followed that Trade before him to fall into that wicked Way of Robbing Houses; so owned the Fact, and that he had formerly been Condemned, and received Mercy. He was hanged at *Tyburn* May the 28th, 1707.

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John Herman Brian. 115

The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

OF

John Herman Brian.

JOHN HERMAN BRIAN, born at *Dulley*, a Village belonging to the Bayliwick of *Morge* in the Canton of *Bern* in *Switzerland*, bred up in the Protestant Religion, was in his younger Years put to learn the Art of a Lapidary, which he not liking, left and went and lived with a Joyner; but thinking that Trade too hard for him, he forsook that and betook himself to the Service of a Gentleman, serving in the Capacity of a *Valet de Chambre*, and went along with his Master to *Geneva*, where having lived four or five Years, he enter'd into the Service of another Gentleman and went with him to *Italy*, and from thence came into *England*, and lived for the space of 3 Years in several Honourable Families, and last of all with *Mr. Persode*, where having been about two Months he was discharged for Carelessness in his Service, and Peremptoriness.

# 116 *The Tryal, &c. of*

ness in asking to be discharged; three Days after which he committed the Facts following.

*John Herman Brian* was indicted at the Sessions-House in the *Old Baily*, the 16th of *October* 1707, for burning and consuming the Mansion-House of *Peter Persode*, Esq; in *St. James's-Street*, *Westminster*. He was likewise indicted a second time for breaking open the said House about the Hour of 3 at Night on the Day abovementioned, and taking from thence a Gold Tweezer-Case and Chain, value 50 l. a Gold Watch, 17 Guineas, and other Goods of Value. *Mr. Persode* deposed, that the Prisoner had been his Servant for the space of two Months, and was discharged of his Service the *Monday* before the Fact was committed, and that the *Wednesday* following, about 10 a Clock at Night, he left all his Doors and Windows fast. *Mrs. Persode* deposed, that when she went to bed she lock'd up her Tweezer-Case, Watch, and other Things; and that about 3 a-Clock in the Morning she awaking out of Sleep, smelt a strong smell of Smoak; whereupon she arose, went out of her Chamber, and found a lighted Flambeaux in the Passage, which had burnt the boards; That then she open-

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## John Herman Brian. 117

ed the Door of a Parlour which was full of Smoak, and immediately the Room was all on fire, which gushed out of the Stairs, and burnt with that Fury that the House was consumed in a quarter of an Hour's Time, they not being able to save any of their Goods. A Tub-Woman deposed, that going by early in the Morning she observed the House to be full of Smoak, and knocked at the Gate, but could make no body in the House hear; and that at the same time she saw a Man come over the Wall, who said to her, *Damn you, are you drunk? what do you do here knocking at Peoples Doors at this time of the Day*, and then went off, but she could not swear positively that the Prisoner was the Person. Mr. Steventon and Mr. Acton, Goldsmiths, deposed, That the Prisoner offer'd to sell the Tweezer-Case to them, and ask'd 8 l. for it, which gave them Reason to suspect he had stollen it, and thereupon they stopped them, but the Prisoner went away, and upon Enquiry found that they were Mr. Persode's Goods. That afterwards he coming again to demand the Goods they seized him, and searching him they found two Pistols and a Dagger about him, with which they were inform'd he design'd to pistol or stab



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stab them upon their refusing to return the Tweezer-Case. Other Evidences deposed, that the Prisoner when he went from the Prosecutor's took a Lodging at a *Frenchman's* House near *St. Ann's*, but was observed to be from his Lodging the Night the Facts were committed; and that he left that Lodging at 12 a-Clock the next Day, and took another in *Spirit-Fields* at one *Peter de la Roche's*; that he brought with him there a Box, a Trunk, and a Bundle sealed with three Seals, and that when they were searched there was found in them Linnen and other Things that were Mr. *Perfodes's*. And that when the Prisoner was committed to *Newgate*, being narrowly searched, a Purse with 17 Guineas was found ty'd up tight and hid under his Privy Members, and that the Prisoner on the 31st of *August* had sold two Pistols and a Fowling-piece, which were proved to be the Prosecutor's, they being produced in Court and sworn to by him. The Prisoner deny'd the Fact, and said he bought the Goods of a strange Man, but could make no Proof of it, nor where he was the Night the Fact was committed; whereupon the Jury found him Guilty of both Indictments.

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## John Herman Brian. 119

Being under Sentence of Death, he made little Preparation for it, but showed himself full of Resentment against the Prosecutor, Witnesses and Justice of his Sentence, obstinately persisting in the Denial of the Facts, either of robbing or burning Mr. *Perfode's* House; insisting upon it that he bought the Goods found in his Possession of a Soldier he accidentally met in *Moorfields*, who sold him the Linnen, the Watch, and the Tweezer-Case, and that he bought the Pistol and Fowling-piece of a Seaman upon *Toper-hill*, both which Parsons he said he never saw before nor since. Nor could he be prevailed upon, either by the Ordinary or other Divines, but solemnly protested he was innocent of any thing he was accused of and condemned for; and instead of preparing for his Death, spent his Time in unscrewing and filing off his Irons several times, in order to make his Escape: and being advised to employ his Time to a better Purpose, he reply'd, *Life was sweet, and that any other Man as well as himself would endeavour to save it if he could.* When he was at the Place of Execution he show'd few or no Signs of Penitence, but great Uneasiness at his Sentence and Uncharitableness with his Prosecutor

120 *The Tryal, &c. of*

secutor and Evidences, and persisting in an obdurate Denial of his Guilt, was Executed at Tyburn the 24th of *October* 1707, in the 24th Year of his Age.

\*\*\*\*\*

*The T R Y A L S, &c.*

O F

*Thomas Vaughan and  
Thomas Davis.*

**T**HE 16th of *October* 1707. *Thomas Vaughan* and *Thomas Davis* were indicted for Conspiring in a notorious and villainous Manner, with *John Knight* and *Edward Knight* (fled from Justice) to extort Money from *Mr. Barker* an Apothecary, and *Mr. Guillam* a Tallow-Chandler, by swearing Sodomy against them. *Mr. Barker* deposed, That on the 20th of *July* before, pretty late at Night, a Messenger came to him, from one *Mr. Davis*, a Person he knew not, nor had any Acquaintance with, to tell him he being indisposed desired to speak with him; that thereupon he sent word by

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the Messenger, that if Mr. *Davis* had any business with him he might come to his House, for he would not go to any body that Night, but whom he knew; upon which *Davis* came himself the next Morning to his Shop, and calling him aside, told him he had something of Privacy and Moment to impart to him, but he did desire his Servants to withdraw, which accordingly by his (their Master's) Order they did; whereupon *Davis* told him that as he was drinking at a *Coffee-House* in *Chancery-Lane*, in the next Box to him there were some Persons drinking, who said they had a Warrant against him for Buggery, and that he as a Friend came to acquaint him with it; that then he (Mr. *Barker*) reply'd, he cared not a Farthing for what any Man could swear against him, for he was innocent of any such Matter; that *Davis* finding but little encouragement, and that he could not accomplish his Ends, he designed, goes to his Confederates *Vaughan* and the two *Knights*, and tells them how (he Mr. *Barker*) had received him: That upon this they resolved to make Affidavit before a Justice of the Peace, and get a Warrant to Apprehend him (the said Mr. *Barker*) which accordingly they did, going to Justice *Ellis*, where Mr. *Vaug-*



*han* made Affidavit that *Mr. Barker* did actually Bugger him: But that before they served the Warrant, *Vaughan* came to him (*Mr. Barker*) and told him, that unless he would give him Satisfaction, he would serve the Warrant upon him, but gave him till the next Morning to consider of it; in the mean time he telling it to a Friend of his, his Friend advised him to make his Case known to Justice *Iretton*, which accordingly he did, who hearing the Matter, immediately suspended the Warrant, so he (*Mr. Barker*) went home and heard no more of them, being resolved to prosecute any of them he could find. But as he was going the *Sunday* after to *Covent-Garden Church*, *Vaughan* came to him and asked him why he would prosecute him and *Davis*, telling him he was now going to a Linnen-Drapers, where if he would come, they would agree the Business: Upon this he readily consented, and considering that the Recorder's Warrant would reach *Vaughan*, went immediately and made his Complaint, and came with the Warrant and served it upon him, and likewise secured *Davis*, who was with him, and had them both before the Recorder, who hearing the Matter, and it plainly appearing to be only a piece

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Vaughan and Davis. 123

of Villany to get Money, committed them to *Newgate*. Another Evidence to corroborate Mr. *Barker's* was one Capt. *Linhere* a French Gentleman, who deposed, that the same *Vaughan* did about 8 Years before swear the same Fact against him, for which he was try'd for his Life at the *Old Baily*, but honourably acquitted. Another Evidence deposed likewise, that they would have had him swear against Mr. *Barker*, that he would have Bugger'd him, but he reply'd he would not do it for the World, knowing he never was in Mr. *Barker's* Company in his Life. They were indicted a 2d time for extorting from Mr. *Guillam* a Tallow-Chandler 20 Shillings in Money, and 20 more upon a Note under the same pretence : Mr. *Guillam* deposed, that he having had occasion to go to the Burrough of *Southwark*, to a Customer of his about some business, in his return took Water, and Landed at the *Temple Stairs*, but having occasion to untruss a Point, went down to the *Temple Bog-House*. where he had not been long before a Boy in the adjoyning Vault put his Privy-member through a Hole, which he perceiving was so surprized that he immediately went away ; but he was no sooner come out, but the Boy follow'd

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low'd him, and cry'd out stop him, saying he would have bugger'd him, upon which *Vaughan* meeting him stopt him, and said unless he would give him an account where he liv'd he would have him secured; that he thereupon being surprized, and knowing his Innocence, did tell *Vaughan* where he liv'd, and his Trade, that afterwards *Vaughan*, *Davis* and the two *Knights* came to him, and told him if he did not make immediate Satisfaction for the thing offer'd they would have a Warrant for him, and gave him no longer time to consider of it, but till the next Day, when they order'd him to meet them at a certain *Brandy-Shop*, where they appointed, that then after they were gone, he considering of the Matter, and whereas he liv'd in Credit, and had a Wife and Children, being fearful of the Disgrace, not knowing what to do, went to a Neighbour's who kept a Publick-house, and advis'd with him about it, and withal desired him to go along with him to meet the Villains, which his Neighbour did, but the Boy did not appear, at which time the Prisoners with their two other Accomplices, after they had drank pretty plentifully, began to demand a great Sum of Money from him, threatening

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*Vaughan and Davis.* 125

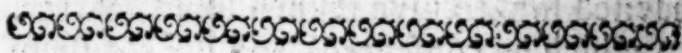
ning that if he did not forthwith produce it they would prosecute him with the utmost Severity, but he would not consent to give them any Money; but his Friend telling him the Scandal these notorious Fellows might bring upon him, advised him to give them a small matter, to which he consented, and offer'd them 20 s. but *Vaughan* immediately objected to that Proposition, and made him give them a Note for 20 s. more, which he had no sooner receiv'd but he swore Damn him, he would have 5 l. more before he had done with him, and that they afterwards shared the 20 s. among them.

The Matter being so plainly proved against them, the Prisoners had little to say in their Defence; *Davis* indeed called some Persons to his Reputation but they gave him but an indifferent Character, whereupon the Jury found him guilty of both Indictments; and as to *Vaughan* he was known to be a notorious Villain, and had made his brags that he had received 50 l. at a time upon the same Account, (particularly of a certain Merchant) The Bench upon the whole being fully satisfied with the innocence of the Persons, and the Villany of *Vaughan*, he was found guilty of both the Indictments.



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And the Court pass'd Sentence on them to stand in the Pillory, at *Temple-Barr*, and *Charing-Cross*; to be Whipp'd from *Temple-Barr* to *Charing-Cross*, and to pay a Fine of 5 l. each, and to remain in Prison till paid.



*The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

*James Harris.*

**J**AMES HARRIS, of the Parish of *Heston*, was indicted at the *Old Bailey*, the 28th of *February* 1704-5, for robbing *George Smith*, Esq; on the Highway the 26th of *July* 1704, and taking from him a Gold Watch, a Gold Box, an Agate Seal, a Silver-hilted Sword, &c. Esquire *Smith* deposed, that he and Major *Wade* of *Bristol* were going into the Country, and in the Morning having stopped at the *Pack-Horse* at *Turnham-Green* to take some Refreshment, prosecuted their Journey, and being inclined to sleep when they came upon *Hounslow-Heath*, two Men

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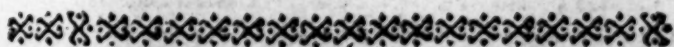
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in Vizard-Masks with Pistols on each side of the Coach, and making some Noise waked them, and that they cry'd, *Damn you, your Money;* and *Harris* seeing the Key of his Watch, cry'd, *Damn you, give me your Watch,* and that in the mean time his Servant, that rode upon the Coach, gave a spring off and caught hold of *Harris* and pulled him off his Horse to the Ground, where they struggled together and his Man got him under him; but whilst they were together, his Servant having his Head under his Arm, *Harris* slipt off his Hat, Perriwig and Mask, and got from him, and then he saw his Face, which had divers Scars in it, so that he did know him again, and that afterwards *Harris* drew his Sword and made a Pass at his Man and swore he would kill him, who put it by; whereupon he told him if he would desist and not kill his Man, he would give him all he had, and accordingly he demanded his Money, Rings, and other Things, which he gave him, and he rode off, and then they prosecuted their Journey to the *Barb.* And that when he came into the Country, he he had heard that he had been try'd before for such an Offence and acquitted, he intended for the Publick Good to

128 *The Tryal, &c. of*

prosecute him the next time he came to *London*; and accordingly going to *Newgate*, made Enquiry after him, and was informed that he was a Trooper in the *Horse-Guards*, and was to be exercised in the *Mews* the next Day, and so he went the next Day; and being there *Harris* boldly stepped up to him, and ask'd him, *Sir, do you know me?* Upon which he put him into some Consternation, and made him hesitate if he were the Man; but going immediately to the Justices who then sat in *St. Martin's Vestry*, presently after *Harris* came there too, where he charged him with the Fact, desiring to see him without his Wig, which when he had done, he verily believed him to be the same Man. Esquire *Smith's* Man confirm'd his Master's Evidence, and swore positively he was the same Man, and that he rode upon a Bay Gelding with a black List down his Back and two white Feet behind. *Harris* upon his Tryal denied the Fact, and said it had been his Misfortune to be taken upon such an Account before, but said he was at another Place when this Fact was done, and called several Witnesses, who said they were with him on the 26th of *July* last, both at the *Globe-Tavern* and *Castle-Tavern* in *Fleetstreet* from 9 or 10

a Clock in the Morning till 10 at Night. And being asked how they came to be so positive as to the Day, they reply'd, that they had a Suit depending at *Dockets-Commons*, and for that Reason they set down all their Expences in a Book which they kept for that Purpose, in which it appeared that from the 9th of *July* there were Entries made, in *August*, *September* and *October*, and after that there was an Entry made with another sort of Ink, on the 26th of *July*, wherein they had spent 16*s*. And as to the Horse he said he had no such Horse at that time, but had bought it afterwards of another Person: but he could not make it appear, thereupon the Jury found him Guilty; but he afterwards obtained a Reprieve.



The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

O F

*Joseph Johnson.*

**J**OSEPH JOHNSON, was indicted at the *Old Bailey* the 16th of *January*.

G 5

1704-5,



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1704-5, for robbing *William Woolley* on the Highway, and taking from him a Silver Watch, 3 Guineas, and 12 Shillings in Silver. The Prosecutor deposed, That as he was travelling about 7 a-Clock in the Morning between *Hockley in the Hole* and *Dunstable*, the *Nottingham* Coach was set upon, and he riding by it they robbed him of the Watch and Money; and that he coming to Town acquainted his Watchmaker with it, and that some time after the Watch being brought to the Watchmaker by one *Gordon* to know the Value of it he stopp'd it, and he produc'd one *Coleman*, who said he had it of the Prisoner *Joseph Johnson*: And other Evidences confirmed the same. And that making Search for *Johnson*, he was taken at *Charing-Cross* in a Chair, having been wounded with 8 Bullets in his Body, which was supposed to be done by a Blunderbuss in committing some other Robbery. However he deny'd the Fact, and as for his Wounds he said he was coming out of *Kent*, and between *Deptford* and *Southwark* was shot, but by whom he knew not. Upon the whole the Jury found him Guilty of the Indictment, and he received Sentence of Death.

## Joseph Johnson. 131

Being under Condemnation, he gave this Account of himself, That he was born in the Parish of *Presbury* in *Cheshire*; that his Father was a Husbandman, and that he served him in that Employment till he was 22 Years of Age, and then he came to *London* and was Servant to several Brewers for about 7 Years, and after that turned Porter, and ply'd in the Streets of *London*, under the Protection of a Freeman of the City, and having got together a little Money turn'd Fruiterer; that having followed this for some time, he came acquainted with some ill Persons and took to Thieving; and that at the latter End of King *William's* Reign he was condemned for stealing some Lead about *Highgate*, and order'd into his Majesty's Service, but he bought it off for about 4*l* and was afterwards committed to *Newgate* upon Suspicion, and no body appearing against him he was acquitted. But then he went by another Name than that of *Johnson*, which he said was his right Name, but desired it might be conceal'd, lest his untimely End should come to his old Father's Ears, and so bring down his grey Hairs with Sorrow to the Grave. When he was first under Sentence of Death he seem'd very uneasy

and

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and unsettled in his Mind, being divided between Hopes and Fears, and a Mixture of other disquieting Passions, as Worldly Sorrow, Love for this Life, Anger, Revenge, and the like, and would by no Means own his being Guilty of the Fact: But in time he grew easie and resign'd to Divine Providence; so that when he came to understand their was no Hope for him, and that he must certainly die, he said, *The Lord's Will be done, I am willing to die, the Lord prepare me for it.* And then began to be more open and ingenuous in his Confession, owned that he did rob Mr. *Woolley* of the Watch and Money, and that it was by a Friend of his, and with his Consent put into the Hands of *Coleman*, in order to pawn or sell, as had been deposed; confess'd he had been an ill Liver, but had begun this Practice of Robbing on the Highway but the Summer before; that he had in Company of some others robbed Stage-Coaches and Travellers, being persuaded to it by those that had used it before. The Ordinary then put these Questions to him; that whereas he was suspected to be the Person that used to rob on the Black Mare, whether he were or not? To which he answer'd, that he had heard

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of

## Joseph Johnson. 133

of a Man that used to rob on a Black Mare, but he was not the Man, nor did know him. He then asked him, How he came by his Wounds : To which he answer'd, that about a Fortnight or three Weeks before he was sent to *Newgate*, he being out upon a Horse he had hired with a Design to rob on the Highway, in Company with another Man, they did between *Hounslow-Heath* and *Colebrook* meet with a Stage-Coach, in which were 4 Gentlemen, who seeing him come pretty near the Coach, and that he had sometimes a Mask on, were apprehensive of his Design of Robbing them, upon which one of them did discharge a Blunderbuss at him and lodged seven or eight Bullets in his Body. But he said he never offered much Violence to any Person ; and that he was so far from designing Murther at any time, that he always resolved rather to be kill'd than kill, because he consider'd that Men were in the right to stand in their own Defence, and that was the reason that kept him from killing the Gentleman that shot him on *Hounslow-Heath*, which he could easily have done. When his Life drew nearer to an End, he began to be more composed in his Mind than he had been before, saying, [ 11. 10. ] he



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he hoped that God, for his Redeemer's sake, would forgive him all his Sins: He pray'd that those that had been concern'd with him would take Warning by him, so as to amend their Lives. And being at the Place of Execution, he said he had done much Evil in the World, but no Good; and therefore since he had not by his Life he wish'd he might now by his Death do good, and that his suffering thus shamefully might prove a happy Occasion of other Sinners Amendment. He was Executed in the 34th Year of his Age at Tyburn, Feb. 7th, 1704-5, in Company with John Norton for Shoplifting.

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## *The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

## *Margaret Flower.*

**M**ARGARET FLOWER, was indicted at the *Old Baily* the 2d of March 1704-5, for being a Bawd, and keeping a common Pawdy-house in *Isaac's Rent* in *Shoe-Lane*. The first Evidence depos-

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sed,

## Margaret Flower. 135

fed, the Prisoner had seduced her and caused her to be Debauch'd, and further said, That a Gentleman came to *Flower's* House, and she sent for her, and that *Flower* bargain'd with him for Half a Crown for a Night's Lodging in her Bed, and that she then laid on a pair of clean Sheets; and that the Gentleman bargained with her to give her 3 s. 6 d. to lie with him, which she did. Another Evidence deposed, That *Flower*, when Men came to her House, used to send for her from her own Lodgings; and that when she had by that Means, of lying with them, got Money, *Flower* used to take it from her. Several other Evidences deposed, that she kept a disorderly House: And she had no Persons to speak to her Reputation. The Jury found her Guilty, and she was sentenc'd to be Carted up *Holbourn*, thro' *Petter-Lane*, *Fleetstreet* and *Shoe-Lane*, and so to *Newgate*, to be fined 20 Marks, and find Sureties for her good Behaviour for 12 Months.

The

*The T R Y A L, &c.*

O F

*Francis Sterrey.*

**F**RANCIS STERREY, was indicted at the *Old Baily*, March the 2d, 1704. for the Murther of *Michael Campion*, the 12th of *January*, by giving him a Wound on the left Shoulder, with a Bullet, of which he Languished till the 18th and then died. He was indicted a 2d time on the Statute, for that *Michael Campion* having no Weapon drawn, nor having struck first, the Prisoner assaulted and killed him. He was indicted a 3d time on the Coroner's Inquest. The Evidence deposed, that he was employed to Arrest *Michael Campion* in an Action of 40 l. at the Suit of one *Joseph Hudson*, and that as he was standing at the Compter Gate a Man came and told him that *Michael Campion* was just then coming by in a Coach, upon which he called for some Assistance, and stopped the Horses, and told *Campion* that he had an Action against him, upon which Captain Sterrey who was with him in the Coach,

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asked them if they were Officers, that they told him they were, and one of them shew'd him his Mace, but that Captain Sterrey said if any one should take *Campion* from him he should be a dead Man, to which he reply'd he must not think to do Mischief in the City, for if he did he must never expect to get off: That then he cockt a Pistol and held it out of the Coach, and the Officer laid hold of it, and that then the Captain freely parted with it to another, and said that if they were Officers they should have *Campion*, and bid them take care of the Pistol for it was loaded; that then they took *Campion* out of the Coach, and the Captain follow'd them, and as they were carrying him to the Compter, the Captain pull'd out another Pistol, and said, *If you will have him you shall have him dead*; upon which he fired a Pistol and shot him in the Shoulder, and the Bullet as the Surgeon depose'd, went through his Shoulder Bone, and lodged in his Lungs near his Heart; and that when *Campion* had received the Wound, he said he felt the Bullet sink to his very Heart: Captain Sterrey in his Defence pleaded, that he had Listed *Campion* at *Hertford* before the Justices at the Sessions there, who gave him charge to take him



# 138 *The Tryal, &c. of*

him into Her Majesty's Service, and said he was afraid of his being rescued from him, and therefore he brought him up to *London*, and alledged that they arrested him with a Sham Action, intending to rescue him from him, and he following them with a Pistol that was cockt, by accident it went off, and gave him the said Wound : He call'd Witneses to prove he had been very kind to the Deceased, and that the Deceased said he freely forgave him ; but however the Jury found him guilty of all 3 Indictments, but he found means to obtain the Queen's Pardon, and was not Executed.

\*\*\*\*\*

## *The TRYAL, &c.*

O F

## *Handsome Fielding.*

**R**OBERT FIELDING, Esq; commonly called *Handsome Fielding*, was indicted at the *Old Baily* the 6th of *December 1706*. For that he did take to Wife *Barbara Dutchess of Cleveland*, on the

## Handsome Fielding. 139

the 25th of *November*, 1705, his first Wife *Mrs. Mary Wadsworth* being then alive. *Mrs. Villars* deposed that one *Mrs. Street* came to her and acquainted her that *Mr. Fielding* was passionately in Love with one *Mrs. Delean*, a Lady of Quality, at *Waddon* in *Surry*, worth 60000 *l.* and that *Mrs. Street* knowing that she used to go to the Lady with a Gentlewoman that used to cut her Hair, desired her to use her Interest to bring *Mr. Fielding* and the Lady together; that she thinking this was a Project being very unlikely to take, She and *Mrs. Street* proposed, that since they could not help him to *Mrs. Delean*, however they would impose upon him one that should personate *Mrs. Delean*, he having never seen her, and who would be more agreeable to his Fortune, and so fixed upon one for him, who was *Mrs. Mary Wadsworth*, that then she signified to *Mr. Fielding* her readiness to comply with his desire, and use her good Offices to bring him acquainted with *Mrs. Delean*; whereupon *Mr. Fielding* having that Opinion of himself, that if *Mrs. Delean* had but the sight of him, she would have the respect for him that he pretended to have for her, goes down into the Country and goes to her House, under pretence of seeing

seeing the Gardens; and being introduced by a Servant, walked about in them for some time, taking divers Turns, and as he was walking espy'd a Lady looking out at a Window, which he took to be Mrs. *Delean*; he, that she might have the more perfect View of him, pulled out his Watch and placed himself looking directly toward the Window, and stood still some time setting his Watch; and being come home comes to her (Mrs. *Villars*) telling her of this Adventure. Upon this she undertakes to persuade Mrs. *Delean* to to come privately to his Lodgings in the *Pell-Mell*, and that after she had been there a while, he should come in and make an Improvement of his Fortunate Coming in that happy Minute. Mr. *Fielding* highly approved the Project, and he had Notice given him of the time, the 29th of *October*, being the Lord Mayor's Day, which when it came Mrs. *Wadsworth* comes in a Mourning-Coach and a Widow's Habit, and had not been there long before Mr. *Fielding* came in, wonderfully surprized with Joy to see his Lady there; then he made his Addresses to her after a very passionate Manner, and entertain'd her with a cold Treat, and sent for *Margaretta*, who

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## Handsome Fielding. 141

coming, entertain'd her with *Italian* Songs, &c. That then Mr. *Fielding* propos'd to marry her, but Mrs. *Wadsworth* seem'd shy, but entertain'd his Loving Disposition with an agreeable Modesty; however before she went away she let him know when he should see her again. But instead of coming according to her Promise she sent him a Letter to excuse herself, and appointed another time: To which Letter Mr. *Fielding* return'd an Answer, wherein he express'd abundance of Fervour, and said there wanted nothing but the Holy Father to make them one, for that their Hearts were one already; and that at the Time appointed, which was on the 9th of *November*, she and Mrs. *Wadsworth* went to Mr. *Fielding's* Lodgings, and that Mr. *Fielding* was not at home when they came, but in a little time came in, and taking his Lady in his Arms, after some endearing Caresses, said he would fetch a Priest. The Lady would have had it put off till another time, but she could not persuade him to it. That then he went out and lock'd the Door after him, and in about three Quarters of an Hour comes in again, and brought with him a Priest call'd the Red Father, with a long Beard, in a long red Gown.

[11.] lined



lined with blue, and a Fur Cap; and order'd his Man *Bowcher* to get Supper, which was brought in accordingly. That upon his coming in Mrs. *Wadsworth* question'd the Priest and said, How shall I know you are a Priest in Orders. To convince her, the Priest put his Hand in his Pocket and pulled out a Paper of the Pope's Picture, about the Bigness of a Crown Piece, and said that none but Priests used to carry those Pictures about them. But she desired some other Token; upon which he shew'd her a Scarf with Crosses and some other Things, which he said none other but Priests in Orders could possibly have; upon which Mrs. *Wadsworth* consented to proceed in the Marriage, and Mr. *Fielding* said this was the time to make him happy. That then Mr. *Fielding's* Man *Bowcher* was sent for Water, Salt and Rosemary to make Holy Water; that he brought the Water and Salt, but could not get Rosemary; that then *Bowcher* was sent away and the Marriage was solemnized in Mr. *Fielding's* Bed Chamber, there being no other Persons there but the Bridegroom, Bride, the Priest and herself. That she remembered the Ceremony of the Ring, the Priest blessing it and crossing himself; and that the Priest read

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## Handsome Fielding. 143

the Service of the Marriage in *Latin*; and that when the Priest came to this Part, *Wilt thou take this Woman to be thy wedded Wife*, Mrs. Wadsworth desired it might be read in *English*; that thereupon Mr. Fielding caused the Priest not to proceed: but the Priest not understanding *English*, Mr. Fielding supply'd that Defect and said the same Words, with this Addition, *With all my Heart, and with all my Soul*, and required Mrs. Wadsworth to do the same; but she speaking it faintly, he desired her to speak it heartily as he himself did. Then she spoke these Words, *I take this Man to be my wedded Husband, with all my Heart and with all my Soul*. And that when the Marriage was over the Priest was discharged, and she put the Bride to Bed, and that she saw them in naked Bed together the next Morning, and had seen them dressed and undressed four times in the space of seven Weeks. To strengthen Mrs. Villars's Evidence his Man *Romcher* was called, who deposed, he brought in the Supper, saw the Priest, brought the Salt and Water, and saw them in Bed together several times after this, and took them to be Man and Wife. This Evidence was further confirmed by Mr. Heath, Mr. Fielding's Landlady, who deposed,

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posed that she saw Mrs. *Wadsworth* go up Stairs with Mrs. *Villars*, and saw the Priest, and thought by his using Water and Salt, that he was making a Convert of them above Stairs. Also the Proctor of *Dofsters Commons* produced the Wedding-Ring, with this Device engraven in it, *Tibi soli*, for *Thee alone*, and the Goldsmith depofed he made it by Mr. *Fielding's* Order, and that the Device was Mr. *Fielding's*. There were also divers Pieces of Writing produced and proved to be Mr. *Fielding's* own Hand, wherein Mr. *Fielding* did acknowledge Mrs. *Wadsworth* to be his Wife, and one in especial, the Copy of which is as follows.

*A Letter directed to the best of Wives, Ann Countess of Fielding at Waddon.*

Nov. 14.

‘ **T**HERE is nothing can please me  
‘ more upon this Occasion; than  
‘ to hear my dear Wife say I had made  
‘ her sick, by turning her Liver; for  
‘ without that we could not hope for a  
‘ young Lord *Tunbridge*, which would  
‘ be next to my dear her self, the most  
‘ welcome Present to my Arms: make  
‘ haste then my dearest Life to cultivate  
‘ [Vol. II.] the

## Handsome Fielding. 145

‘ the young Spark, and besure you do  
‘ not starve my Boy : As for your com-  
‘ ing to me it wholly depends upon your  
‘ self, who can best judge, when it is  
‘ most proper to come to me, which  
‘ you can do by giving it out that you  
‘ are to stay all Night in *London*, and  
‘ then you and Puggy have nothing to  
‘ do but come at Bed-time, and so we  
‘ may go to Bed and lie till Morning,  
‘ when Puggy may come again and call  
‘ you.

*Adieu my Soul's Love, that I must ever  
value more than Life.*

Mr. *Fielding* in his Defence endeavour-  
ed to prove that Mrs. *Wadsworth* was  
married to one *Lily Bradley*, and pro-  
duced the Register-book of the *Fleet*,  
wherein there was a Certificate of a  
Marriage between *Lily Bradley* and *Mary  
Wadsworth* ; but it being written at the  
bottom of a Leaf, and in a different  
Hand, and with Ink of a different Co-  
lour from the rest, and some other Cir-  
cumstances, gave sufficient Ground to  
suspect the Truth of it. He also called  
Evidence to prove Mrs. *Villars* was a  
lewd Woman, and brought one Mrs.  
*Fletcher* who deposed, that Mrs. *Villars*  
had confess'd to her that she had had two  
H Bastards ;



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Bastards; one by the Lord *Torrington*, and the other by the Lord *Stamford*: But this was confronted. The Jury having maturely weigh'd the Evidences on both sides, found Mr. *Fielding* Guilty of Felony.



*The TRYAL, &c.*

O F

*Henry Banford.*

**H**ENRY BANFORD, a Blind Man, and *William Jones*, a Lame Man, were indicted at the *Old Bailey* for robbing *John Warmore* on the High-way, the 16th of *May* 1706, and taking from him a Hat, value 5 s. The Prosecutor deposed, That as he was coming from *Green-Goose-Fair* at *Bow* about 12 a Clock at Night, being near the great Barn, he met with the Prisoners, one of them having an Oaken Stick and the other a Quarter-staff, upon which he made a Halt and they halted likewise; then they came together to a Booth, where they would have had some Drink, but the

[Vol. II.] Man

Man refused to draw it; so they agreed to go to *Milt-End*, and the Blind Man gave him the Staff to bring up the Rear. And they going along, the Blind Man went thro' the Stile first, and the Lame Man next, and he last of all; upon which they made a Blow at him and he leaped into the Road, and the Blind Man followed him; upon which he threw away the Staff to make his Escape, but the Blind Man followed him and catch'd him, and the Lame Man came up and knock'd him down, and broke his Head, and put his Hand into his Pocket, but he had no Money; upon which the Blind Man said, *Damn his Blood he would Mur-ther him.* But the Lame Man kissed him and said he should not murther him, but said to the Blind Man, *Damn you, take his Hat,* and gave it him. They both deny'd the Fact, and alledged that the Prosecutor was in Drink and took away the Blind Man's Staff and ran away with it, and that following him he catch'd him and threw him on his Back, and the Lame Man came to his Assistance, and the Prosecutor's Hat fell off, and the Blind Man missing his put it upon his Head. Upon the whole the Jury acquitted them.

*The TRYAL, &c.*

OF

*John Meadows.*

**J**OH N MEADOWS of *St. Andrews Holbourn* Glass-grinder, was indicted for the Murther of *Isaac Veale* his Apprentice, on the 12th of *July 1705.* by kicking, striking, and wounding him, of which he languished to the 14th and then dyed: The first Evidence Deposed that the Prisoner was a very inveterate Man, and beat him so much, which the hearing desired him to forbear, upon which he call'd her Old Bitch, and bid her be gone about her Business, and said that the Deceased had Plasters on both sides his Face at that time, and his Shirt was bloody on the Sleeve; another said that he pull'd of his Shirt Sleeve and shew'd her a great bruise upon his Arm, and said that his Master gave it him, and desir'd her that she should not tell any body of it, least his Master should beat him worse; another said that his Master beat him and gave him several

Blows

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## John Meadows. 149

Blows six Weeks before, and that he did it with an Oaken Stick; another said she heard him beat him the *Thursday* before he died, and he call'd out to his Master desiring him to forgive him, and said that the Deceased was bloody all over his Body, and his Head bruised in a very sad manner; there were divers other Evidences who depos'd that he did often beat him, and that his Arm was bruis'd from the Shoulder to the Fingers Ends, and his Head bruis'd, and that on the *Saturday* before he died, at about two a Clock in the Morning, his Master struck a Light and went up Stairs, and told the Evidence that the Deceas'd having occasion to go down Stairs to the Vault, fell down and cut his Head, but did believe it was done by his beating of him; and further said that when his Master went up again about 6, and he was Dead, both he and his Wife would have perswaded the Evidence though they saw him not till he was Dead, to say that they saw him give his last Gasp, and that he was then alive, but died presently; others said he was black and blew all over his Body, and very much bruis'd all over him; other Evidence further said, that they put him on a clean Shirt, and that



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There was a great Fire made, in which the foul Shirt was burnt, as they did believe, because it could not be found: other Evidences said, that he had a Hurt in the bottom of his Belly, which they suppos'd was done by some Kick, and that he did beat him cruelly several times, another said that the Blood flew out of the hole in his Head when she touch'd it with her Finger, and his Wife said, what do you think I have Murther'd him? There were several Surgeons who depos'd, that when they open'd the Deceased's Body, they found about two Quarts of bruis'd Blood, and did believe that some Vessel was broke, and one of them said he saw something by the Liver, and it look'd as if it was done by a kick of a Shoe: There was other Surgeons who all agreed that the Vessel of Blood that was broke, and the quantity of Blood that was in the Body, was the occasion of his Death. The Prisoner said, that the Boy spoil'd his Goods, and he did give him Correction for it, but that it was Moderate; as for his Head that was cut, he said, that he had him lift a great Iron, that did belong to their Trade, which weigh'd almost 2 hundred weight, and that his Foot slipt, and it fell upon his Head and gave him the said

[Vol. II]

Cut;

Cut ; and further said, that the Boy was not well the Day before he died, and did suppose that he coming down that Morning to go to the Vault, being light headed fell down, for he found him at the bottom of the Stairs, and he struck a Light, and took him in his Arms, and carried him up Stairs, and said that he believ'd that the Fall might be the cause of his Death : But there was another Evidence, who said that when the Boy was dead he was afraid to go and acquaint his Mother with it, but desired him to do it for him, and fell a trembling: All which the Jury having consider'd they found him Guilty. Being under Sentence of Death, he told the Ordinary he was 37 Years of Age, born in the Parish of *St. Mary-Overies*, and was a Glass-grinder by Trade, which he had follow'd for about these 12 Years past, working for the Shops, in his House on *Saffron-Hill*, in the Parish of *St. Andrews Holbourn* ; he readily confess'd that he had occasion'd the Death of his said Apprentice by the blows he gave him ; he desir'd him to send for the Mother of that poor Boy he had thus Murther'd, which he did, and she being come to him accordingly, he begg'd upon his Knees, and with Tears her Pardon, which she

# 152 *The Tryal, &c. of*

granted him, and pray'd God to forgive him in another World ; he told me that his Wife was no ways concern'd in that Bloody Fact, but that he was the only Person guilty of it ; he declared that he dy'd in Charity with all Mankind, and desir'd the charitable Prayers of all good People, and their pardon whom he had any ways Injur'd. When he made his nearer approach to Death, he said, his Hope of Mercy encreas'd, and he fully trusted in Christ's Merits for Salvation, and that his most precious Blood shed for all truly Penitent Sinners, would be apply'd to the Cleansing and Purifying of his Soul from that Stain and Guilt with which the Blood he had so Unjustly and Unmercifully Spilt had polluted it : He desir'd all passionate Masters, who had Apprentices, to take warning by him, and not to be so Cruel as he had been, and a great many are; whose excessive Severities, though they do not always tend to the Death, yet very often prove the Ruin of their Servants. He was Executed at Tyburn the 19th of September, 1705. Together with *James King*, *Eleanor Jackson* alias *Scotch Nell* ; *Anne Gardiner* for House-breaking, and *Richard Lewis* for Robbing on the Highway.

Richard Morris. 153

*The* LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

OF

*Richard Morris.*

**R**ICHARD MORRIS was born in *Moor-Fields*, where his Parents kept an Ale-House, with whom he liv'd till about 18 Years of Age, and contracted both ill Acquaintance and vicious Habits, and was afterwards put an Apprentice to Mr. *G — r*, Silk Stocking-Weaver, in *Half-Moon-Alley*; during which time his Mother out of a too fond indulgence was used to supply him with more Money than was necessary, by which means he continued to keep Company, and that none of the best, but it happening by his Parents Misfortunes the Springs were stopp'd from whence he used to be supply'd, then he took to irregular Courses to support his Extravagancies, and would get out of his Master's House a Nights, and go in Company with *John Wheeler* and *William Newton*, two Neighbouring Apprentices a Robbing, and commenc'd Thief first by stealing of  
H 3 Casements,



Casements, and having been out one Night upon that Exercise, his Master going out the next Morning, happen'd to espy him with 2. or 3 Casements; and not being seen by him, dogg'd him where he carried them to sell, being thus caught in his Roguery, he fell down on his Knees, begg'd his Master's Pardon, promising a Reformation for the future, but his vicious inclinations were grown too masterly for him, to keep his Promise, for upon the first call of his Comrade, he would get out at a Window 2 Story high, to go a Thieving, but he having a good Hand at his work, his Master would fain have broke him of his Wicked Acquaintance, and to that End was at several Pounds Charge to Iron-Bar his Windows, and make extraordinary fastenings to the Doors, but neither would these restrain him, but getting out one Night, he and *William Newton* a Weavers Apprentice hard by, went to the *Tenter-Fields* in *Hog-Lane*, and stole Broad-Cloth, for which they were Apprehended and Try'd at the *Old Baily*, December the 12th 1701. upon two Indictments, the first for stealing 18 Yards of Cloth, from off the Tenters of *William Pardow*, the 2d for stealing 6 Yards and half of Cloth from off the Tenters of

[Vol. II.] James.

*James Graves.* The Evidence deposed, that they saw them with the Cloth up-  
 their Back, and being pursued they  
 threw *Pardon's* Cloth over some Rails  
 and made their Escape, but they being  
 known were afterwards taken. The  
 Fact was plain against them both; the  
 Jury found them both Guilty, and they  
 received Sentence of Death, but were af-  
 terwards pardon'd. During the time  
 he was with his Master, his Comrade  
*John Wheeler* had cut a Piece of his Ma-  
 ster's Work out of the Loom and carried  
 it away; upon which *Wheeler's* Master  
 came to *Morris's* Master, telling him  
 what his Servant had done; and know-  
 ing that *Wheeler* and *Morris* were Bre-  
 thren in Iniquity, desir'd Mr. G——  
 to ask his Man if he knew any thing of  
 the Matter, which he calling him down  
 did; but *Morris* said he knew nothing  
 of it, but if he had robbed his Master he  
 was a Rogue, and as he never had nor  
 would be guilty of such a Crime, so he  
 would detect him, and therefore told  
 his Master he knew his Haunt, and if he  
 would give him leave to go to look for  
 him, he would engage in an Hour or  
 two's time to bring him dead or alive.  
 His Master at first scrupled it, but at  
 last gave him leave to go, and he was as  
 good

156 *The Tryal, &c. of*

good as his Word, and in a little time brought him to his Master with the Stuff under his Arm, and delivered him up to his Master, giving him a Kick of the Arse, upbraiding him for being such a Rogue to rob his own Master. Being pardoned he was after some time set at Liberty ; but his Master not caring to entertain him any more after he came out of that Nursery of Villany *Newgate*, he took to Thieving for good and all. And after the Commission of several Facts he was apprehended again, and Tryed at the *Old Bailey* the 10th of *December* 1702, for breaking the House of the Lady *Mary Parker* with Intention to steal the Goods. The Evidence deposed, that hearing a Noise she went up Stairs and heard some body go out at the Casement, which she found open and a Pane of Glass broke. Another Evidence deposed, that he saw him peep out at the Window and dropped his Hat, and having got out at the Window threw himself over the Pales, and that he being apprehended his Hand was found to be bloody as though cut with Glass. He denied the Fact, but it being plainly prov'd, the Jury found him Guilty of the Indictment. But he was Reprieved again, but lay near 3 Years in *Newgate*

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before

before he got his Liberty, during which time he was made a small Officer there; and when his time came to be set at Liberty, having received a Loaf, the Prison Allowance, being just going out, he set it upon a Shelf, swearing in a most violent Manner, that if any Person presumed to touch it before he came in again he would cut their Throats. He was then sent into *Flanders* for a Soldier, where he staid not long before he got away and came over to *England*, and being at *Canterbury*, to raise a little present Money went to work at his Trade of Stocking-making, and got Entertainment in an old Woman's House that sold Drink, where he so behaved himself that the Good old Woman taking him to be very honest, gave him Credit upon his Pretence his Master had not paid him for his Work; but not caring to work any longer he comes home seemingly with a great deal of Joy that his Master had paid him, telling her now he would pay her all he owed her the next Morning: So going to Bed, the next Morning he comes down Stairs unbutton'd, without Neckcloth or Garters, except in his Pocket, saying Landlady, now I'll pay you, but however let's do nothing rashly, let's have a full Pot  
of



of humming Ale first: The old Woman goes very readily to draw it, and while she was gone he bolts the Door that she could not get out, and marches away toward *London*, leaving the old Woman to be released by the next Customer that came to the House. Making the best of his way up to *London*, he soon went to his old Trade of Thieving again. He would now and then when at Liberty come to a Neighbouring Alehouse and send for his Master, telling him he designed to come and be made Free when his Time was out. His Master would advise him to leave off his Course of Thieving, telling him he would certainly come to be hang'd; to which he answer'd, *Ay Master, I believe my Nob must make a Button* (meaning in the Loop-hole of a Halter.) Another time he came to a Friend of his Master's, bringing *Dick Low*, and told his Master's Friend that he should tell his Master his Time was out, and he would come to him and be made Free; but his Master's Friend telling him his Time was not out, he pulled his Indenture out of his Pocket, and not being able to read it himself, gave it to *Dick Low*, who told him he wanted half a Year; so after some more Discourse went away, and quickly after was catch-

## Richard Morris. 159

ed again and indicted at the *Old Bailey*, together with *Thomas Arnold*, for breaking the House of *Samuel Sambrook*, Esq. The Evidence against them was one *Richard Hacket* one of their Comrades, who deposed that himself with *Richard Morris* and one *Matthews* and *Thomas Arnold* broke the House; that *Morris* assisted him in lifting an Iron Bar out of the Window, but the Watch coming by in the interim and pursuing them, spoiled their Design of robbing the House. The Prisoners however denied the Fact, but the Jury brought them in Guilty of the Indictment, and they received Sentence of Death. After which there was nothing remarkable: They confessed that they had been great Offenders, had committed a great many Robberies, but would give no particular Account, *Morris* saying that he had done it fully in a Paper that he deliver'd to one *Mr. Billers*. They both acknowledg'd that their Sentence was just, and so much the more that they had abused Mercy, they having forfeited their Lives before, which had been given them again by a gracious Pardon. They were both Executed at *Tyburn*, *Morris* being 26 Years of Age, and *Arnold* 22. Dec. 13. 1706. in Company with *Arthur Chambers*, *William Bently*, *William Dabell*.

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*Dabel*, all for House-breaking, and *James Gardiner*, for breaking the House and robbing Sir *John Parsons*, who was very stubborn, and when the *Ordinary* pressed him to endeavour after a Sense of his Sins and Repentance for them, he told him, that *he could in half an Hour repent of all his Sins*; and would endeavour to extenuate his Crime and be thought a conscientious Thief, by saying he never robbed any poor Person, but such as were able to bear it, and could not suffer much by the Loss, and therefore he did not think he had committed any great Sin in so doing; for, said he, *they had too much and I had too little.*

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## *The TRYALS, &c.*

OF

*Edward Jefferies and Elizabeth Torsbel.*

**E**DWARD JEFFERIES, and ELIZABETH TORSHEL, were indicted at the *Old Bailey*, the 30th of Sept. 1705. The first  
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## Jefferies and Torshel. 161

for the Murther of Mr. *Robert Woodcock* of *Clifford's Inn*, on the 26th of *July*, by giving him one Wound with a Rapier of the depth of 6 Inches, of which he instantly died: *Elizabeth Torshel* for being present, aiding and abetting the said Murther. It appeared in Court that *Jefferies* and Mr. *Woodcock* had dined together at the *Blue Posts* at the lower End of the *Pall-Mall* the Day the Deceased was killed, between one and two of the Clock, and that then they parted, *Jefferies* going unto *Torshel's* Lodgings in *St. Martin's Lane*, and they were seen to go out together towards the Park, and came home about 6 at Night. And that Mrs. *Torshel* being told that the Gentleman that was with her lay dead in *St. Martin's Church-yard*; she reply'd, *Death and Fury! is it he?* And having seen him, cry'd out, *O Lord! it is he, don't make no Disturbance*; and that when the Officers had Orders to apprehend Mrs. *Torshel*, and going to her Lodgings, she had lock'd her self in, and refused to open the Door: but he threatening to break the Door open, she let him in, and searching found a Purse and 3 Rings, in one of her Drawers, which were proved to be Mr. *Woodcock's*. As to Mr. *Jefferies*, a Boy declared that he  
and



and another Boy were playing in the Fields near *Chelsea*, about Four in the Afternoon, and there he saw Mr. *Jefferies* and Mr. *Woodcock*, and heard them grumbling together, and they walked toward the Pond. And that then Mr. *Jefferies* said to Mr. *Woodcock*, *God damn you, you lie* ; to which Mr. *Woodcock* reply'd, *Pray don't give me the Lye too*. And that Mr. *Jefferies* presently drew his Sword, and before Mr. *Woodcock* could draw his (he being Left-handed) he gave Mr. *Woodcock* a Wound, and he fell down immediately ; and then he drew Mr. *Woodcock's* Sword and took some of his Blood and rubbed it upon his Sword, but that not being enough he squeezed the Wound to get out more, and having blooded the Sword put it under him, that People might think he had killed himself, and then put his Hand into Mr. *Woodcock's* Pocket and took something out, and then run towards *Chelsea*, and that then he and his Playfellow followed him ; that as he ran along he broke his own Sword and put it under his Coat, but they still following him, he turned about, and said, *he would knock their Brains out if they followed him any further* ; which made them run back. The Boys said likewise, that Mrs. *Torshel* was walking

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## Jefferies and Torschel. 163

ing the mean time by the Park-Wall, and that after Mr. *Jefferies* had killed Mr. *Woodcock*, she came into the Field and was going toward the dead Body, but seeing them there she seemed to turn back. This was confirm'd by the other Boy likewise. Other Evidences deposed that after the Murther was committed about half an Hour after Four Mr. *Jefferies* and Mrs. *Torschel* met at the *Cheshire Cheese* at *Chelsea*, and staid there till near Six. Mr. *Jefferies* denied the Fact, and said he was at another Place at the time when the Murther was done, and called some Witnesses to prove it, but none of them agreed as to the time. The Jury thereupon found him Guilty. Mrs. *Torschel* she pleaded that the Purse and Rings were left with her by the Deceased; and there not being sufficient Evidence against her the Jury acquitted her.

While he lay under Condemnation neither the *Ordinary* of *Newgate*, nor other worthy Divines, could bring him to an Acknowledgment of the Murther of Mr. *Woodcock*; and a little before his Execution he delivered a Paper to the *Ordinary*, in the first Part of which, he endeavours to clear himself from being any ways concerned in the Murther of Mr.

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Mr. *Woodcock*, or knowing any thing of it, or so much as knowing Mr. *Woodcock* dead or alive. And in the Close he says as followeth :

I was born of very honest Parents near the *Devizes* in *Wiltshire*, religiously Educated in the Church of *England* (which Church by the Grace of God I die in) I served my Clerkship to an eminent Attorney here in *London*, my Father dying and leaving me an Estate too young, which I in some little time spent, I married a virtuous young Woman, whose Parents lived at *St. Alban's*, never having any other Wife but her, nor ever lived with any other Woman but her, but vainly and profusely spent part of my precious Time with many. I had a great Blessing in her, if it had pleased God to have given me Grace to have made use of it. She was to me chaste, beautiful and young, and loved me too well; I, like the Cock in the Fable, not knowing the Value of so precious a Jewel, made slight of it, which now too late I esteem, and repent that *I should do those things I ought not to have done, and leave undone those things I ought to have done* : Which Omission God Almighty has, I hope, pardoned me. Into whose blessed Hands I commend my immortal Soul; and so vain World adieu. Be-

## Jefferies and Torshel. 165

Being at the Place of Execution, he still persisted in denying the Fact to the very last, saying he freely forgave those that had injured him, and that he died in perfect Charity with all the World. After he had performed his Devotions, he desired the Prayers of the Spectators, and was turned off, not appearing dejected at all, nor so much as changing Countenance to the very last. He was Executed at Tyburn the 21<sup>st</sup> of Sept. 1705, being about 41 Years of Age.

After his Decease Mrs. Torshel sent Mr. Lorrain the Ordinary the Paper following:

*Reverend Sir,*

AFTER a Consideration of your good Counsel, I think it my Duty to give you an Account, to the uttermost of my Knowledge, in this Murder of Mr. Woodcock. When Mr. Jefferies and I came through the Park, he went into the hither-Door of the Mulberry-Garden, and walk'd up toward the House. Said Mr. Jefferies, We will go to Chelsea, and if you will go thro' the House, we will make an excuse at the Bar. I went through first, and stay'd at the Wall, and Mr. Jefferies came to me.

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Then



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Then we walk'd towards *Chelsea*, and entered into the Field that is the direct Path, Mr. *Jefferies* said, There is a Friend of mine, pray walk on, I will overtake you immediately. Accordingly I did, and got within two Fields of *Chelsea* when Mr. *Jefferies* overtook me, (which Way he came I know not) for I walk'd very slow, and he was by me before I had any Sight of him. I perceiv'd something of a Surprize in him. Said I, You are out of Temper. Have you and that Gentleman had any Words? He answer'd me, We have had Words, and I gave him a small prick. But said I, I hope you have not hurt him. No, no, said Mr. *Jefferies*. And that was every Word we spoke concerning it. When we came into *Chelsea*, said Mr. *Jefferies*, We will go to *Cheshire-Cheese*, for I know the Man of that House: So we went in, for then we were by the Door. And when we came into the Room, Mr. *Jefferies* laid his Sword, Hat, and Gloves on the Table, and went out of the Room. I took the Sword in my Hand, and drew it out of the Scabbord, to see if it were bloody, by the reason he said that he had prick'd the Gentleman. But the Sword was neither bloody nor broke, as the Boys said. But

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there

there is a good Reason to be given for the Boys saying so : For one Day when Mr. *Jefferies* and I were in the Chappel, I asked him, if he did not give the Wound with Mr. *Woodcock's* own Sword, and if he did not draw it. He said, No. Then said I, As he was drawing his Sword, I suppose you snatch'd it from him ; for the Chyrurgeon said, it was not the Sword you had that gave the Wound. And did you break his Sword, as the Boys said you did ? No, said he, I broke no Sword. But then reply'd I, Did you not go to break it ? He made me no Answer to that Word, only said it happened so unfortunately for me to know the said Mr. *Woodcock*, and my having those Rings made him suffer. Said I, I knew not that you had kill'd him, when you were fetch'd by my Order ; neither did I know that he was an Acquaintance of yours. But, said I, I am told that you have Money of his, and that you chang'd one of his Guinea's that Night you came into the Goal. Said Mr. *Jefferies*, he gave me none. Nay, Sir, said I to him, I don't ask you if you took them, or if he gave you any. But by what the Boys and I do know, there must be something more than I find you are willing I should know ; and I suppose he would

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would not give you any, and that was the occasion you quarrel'd. He fetch'd a very great Sigh, and shook his Head, but made me no Answer: Which makes me think it was so; for he never spoke many Words after: Which makes me think he did resent my putting those Words so very close to him. All that ever he said to me after was, That he wonder'd I was not out, and said, he would not have me come up to the Chapel, for what reason I cannot say, except upon that you took so much Pains to examine us severally and together, he feared I should say how he left me: For he said to me, Don't you mention that when we went to *Chelsea*, I was any time out of your Company; for if you do, then I shall not be reprieved. I humbly ask your Pardon, Sir, for not letting you know as far as my Knowledge reached: But knowing I could not do the Daceas'd any Good; and if I spoke, this Man would loose his Life, made me leave it to the just God, which knows the Secrets of all Hearts. This is all I can say. But I beg of you to pray to God for me, to keep me from all such wicked Persons: And that will add very much to the Health

—I am your humble servant, and I shall be glad to hear from you again. I am, Sir, your humble servant, and I shall be glad to hear from you again. I am, Sir, your humble servant, and I shall be glad to hear from you again.

Jefferies and Torsnell. 169

Health and Satisfaction of my poor  
Soul.

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

Out of the Master-

sife in Newgate,

Octob. 15th, 1705.

Elix. Torsnell.

S I R,

One thing more I forgot to mention ;  
which is, That Mr. Jefferies all along said  
he should have a Reprieve, if I said no-  
thing concerning his Knowledge of Mr.  
Woodcock ; for he said he had petition'd  
His Grace the Duke of Ormond, and that  
he would get a Friend to go to the  
Queen ; which I do believe was Mrs.  
Lambourn, one of the Boys Mothers. Mr.  
Jefferies moreover said, that the Father  
of Mr. Robert Woodcock should not have  
his Life ; for he did not question but he  
should be reprieved for all that. I sup-  
pose you know, Sir, what Mr. Jefferies's  
Opinion was, That there was only a  
Heaven, and no Place of Torment for  
bad Livers, but to be put out of the pre-  
sence of the Lord : Which he said to me  
before he came out of this Place, and  
since you and many more Learned Di-  
vines have taken Pains to make him own  
the Fact for which he justly has suffered.

I

E. T.



*John Shirley and Philip Wake.*

**J**OH N SHIRLEY, alias *Davis*, and PHILIP WAKE, were indicted at the *Old Baily*, on the 10th of *May* 1700, for breaking and firing the House of Dr. *Sloan* in *Bloomsbury-Square*, and the Fact being plainly proved upon them they were both found Guilty. Being under Sentence of Death, *John Shirley* said he was descended of a good Family, and was well educated, but growing headstrong ran away from his Parents and listed himself a Soldier, and served abroad several Years, and at the last getting Acquaintance with the Surgeon of a Regiment, he gain'd some Knowledge in Surgery, and practis'd that Art, and got a good Livelihood thereby, but lived at such a Rate that his Income would not answer his exorbitant Expences; and so falling into a Gang of House-breakers, he committed many Robberies and Burglaries with them, more than he could remember, and at length he and his Gang resolving to break open Dr. *Sloan's* House attempted it in several

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Places,

## Shirley and Wake. 171

Places, but could not effect it, and then they resolved to set it on fire, and that *Philip Wake* was the first that persuaded to set the House on fire, and accordingly one of them struck a Light, and cut a little Door into Splinters, then breaking the Glass and part of the Wood in the Window, set a Candle to it, which caused the Window to blaze, designing when the Fire was got a Head to throw Stones at the upper Windows to awaken the Family, and so under Pretence of helping them, to carry away their best Goods, and rob them of all that was valuable. When he was come to the Place of Execution, he acknowledged that he did suffer deservedly, seemed terribly afraid of Death, saying, *Fear and Trembling have seized me, and an horrible Dread hath overwhelmed me. Without is the Prospect of Death and Disgrace, and within Guilt and Anguish; and yet tho' my Burden is intolerable, O God! I cannot say but it is infinitely Just. It is a most reasonable and righteous Return for my most daring Provocations of thy Justice, and much more for my vile Abuses of thy Mercy and Patience: I must needs acquit and justify thee, and have none to accuse but my own self for all my present Fears and Miseries; All my Life I have been sowing Wickedness,*

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*and am now brought to reap the Fruit thereof.* He was Executed at Tyburn in the 22d Year of his Age, *May* the 24th 1700. With *Philip Wake*, condemned for the same Crime, who gave the same Account of the Fact as *Shirley* had done, only with this difference, that he said *Davis* was the Projector of it, and encouraged them to it when they were resolved to desist.

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## *The TRYAL, &c. of Lewis Guittar, and 70 Pyrates.*

**L**EWIS GUITTAR, and 70 Pyrates were indicted at the *Old Baily*, *October* the 25th 1700, for Piracy and Robbery, upon the high Sea, For that upon the 28th of *April* preceding, about 2 Leagues from Cape *Henry* upon the Coast of *Virginia*, they did Pyratically set upon a certain Merchant Ship called the *Nicholson*, *Robert Lurting* Master, and the Ship and Apparel value 3000 l. 700 Hogsheads of Tobacco value 2000 l. The first Evidence was Captain *Lurting*, who deposed that as he was riding at Anchor in *Linhaven Bay* within the Cape, about 10 or 11 a Clock, he saw the Py-

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rate

## Guiftar and 70 Pyrates. 173

rate and 3 Sail more come in, upon which one of his Men hailed the Pyrate, asking him from whence he came, and that they answered in English; *from the Sea you Dogs*, and hung out bloody Colours; upon which he mistrusting them to be Rogues, called to his Men to Slip the Cable, and endeavoured to put out to Sea, and set his Sails, but they fired at him so violently with small Shot, that at length he struck his Ancient; and they sent a Boat and took him out of the Ship, and carried him on Board the Pyrate, where he remained all Night in the Hold, and the Pyrates Men went on Board his Ship; and made his Men work all that Night to throw the Goods into the Sea, and threw 99 Hogsheads of Tobacco over-board: And the next Day the Captain of the Pyrate commanded him upon the Quarter-Deck, and bid him look with his Spying-Glass, which he refused; but turning his Head the other way, he saw the *Shoreham-Galley* Man of War, making Sail towards them, and then they forced him down into the Hold again, where he saw a Dutchman crying and calling with a Speaking-Trumpet to their Men that were in the Prizes to come aboard; that then they being come aboard, and the Man of War come



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up to them, the Man of War engaged them, and the engagement lasted a pretty while, and at last forced the Pyrate on Shoar, and that when they were forced a Shoar they attempted to burn the Ship *Nicholson*, crying out a *brulee*, a *brulee*, and that there were 50 English Men Prisoners in the Hold at the same time; but it happened that 2 of the Men swam to Shore and acquainted the Governour of *Virginia*, of the distress the rest of the Ships Crew and Ship were in; upon which he order'd Persons to their Assistance, and preserved the Men and Ship by Capitulating with the Pyrates, and giving them Quarter. The next Evidence was one who had been on Board the Pyrate 4 Months, and 3 Weeks, who was positive the Prisoners were all on Board the Pyrate, and that *Lewis Guittar* was Captain, and that they had taken 12 Ships besides the *Nicholson*, which were English and Dutch. Other Evidences deposed further, that the Pyrates did Torture them; the first said, that after they had him on Board the Pyrate's Ship they examin'd him, asking him where the Ship *Jeffery* was, which he told them; that then they asked him if there was any Man of War in the Country? And he told them there was one of 50

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Guns;

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Guns; that then they sent him on Board the *Nicholson* again, and one of them called him on the Quarter-Deck, and unscrew'd the Flint of his Fuzee, and made him put in his Thumb, and then screwed it fast, and then unscrewed his Thumb and screw'd in his little Finger, and said he had told him a Lye, by saying there was a Man of War in the Country; that then they lash'd him and beat him with their Cortelasses, and told him they would cut off his Head, and made him lay his Head down, and put his Hair under his Cap, and laid the Cortelass upon his Neck, but did not cut him much; that after that they beat him with the Mizzen-brailes, and gave him near 500 blows; till at last one of them said he had enough, and then they let him go, and another of them said set up another for it is good Sport. Another Evidence deposed, that they ty'd his Hands behind him, and did hoist him up with a Rope, and beat him upon the Shoulders that he had utterly lost the use of one of his Arms,; and at length let him down and bid him be gone forward, and that he crept away upon all fours: The Prisoners in their Defence pleaded; some that they were sick on Board, others that they were under Age, others that

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they

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they were forc'd on Board, being taken out of Ships and Barks at *Rochet, Petit, Guaves, Guviallo*, and other Places, and others that they were Hunters in the Woods, and others Fisher-men, and some of them proving their Allegations, they were acquitted, but the rest found Guilty.

*John Dubois* and *Peter Maingeneau* and 7 more, were indicted for Piracy and Robbery on the High Sea, on 3 Indictments, the first for robbing the Ship *Nicholson*, and the 2d for robbing the Ship call'd the *Indian-King*, near *Cape-Henry* in *Virginia*, Capt. *Whitaker* Master, the 28th of *April* 1700, and the Ship and Apparel value 4000 l. a 1000 Hogsheads of Tobacco, and 100 Ounces of Silver: The 3d for robbing the Ship called the *Pensilvania* Merchant, *Samuel Harrison* Master, about 50 Leagues from *Virginia*, on the 24th of *April* 1700, and taking the Sloop, Apparel, and Goods to the value of 300 l. It was fully proved that *Dubois* and *Maingeneau* plunder'd the *Pensilvania* Merchant when they had taken her, and afterwards set her on Fire, so they two were found Guilty, but as to the rest of them, it appear'd that they had been cast away upon an Island uninhabited near *Hispagnola*, where was no fresh Water nor Provisions, and that

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they

## Guittar, and 70 Pyrates. 177

they had continued there 7 or 8 Days, without any Subsistence; upon which they made a Signal, and the Pyrate coming by took them in, whereupon they were all acquitted. The rest, being in all 52, receiv'd Sentence of Death. Three of these died in *Newgate*, after their Condemnation, 25 were Reprieved, and 24 were at one time hang'd at *Execution-Dock* the 14th of *Novemb.* 1700. They being Foreigners and of divers Nations, and many of them *Roman* Catholicks, made but little or no Confession; the *Ordinary* only says this of them, that several of them seem'd penitent, and he hoped they were so.

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## The T R Y A L, &c. of John Cowland.

**J**OHN COWLAND, was indicted at the *Old Baily*, the 5th of *Dec.* 1700, on 3 Indictments; 1<sup>st</sup>, at the Common Law, 2<sup>dly</sup>, upon the Statute of Stabbing, and 3<sup>dly</sup>, upon the Coroner's Inquest, for the Murther of Sir *Andrew Slanning*, Bart. The first evidence deposed, as she sat behind Sir *Andrew* in the Pit in the Playhouse, he fell into Discourse with an O-  
L S. range.



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range-Woman, and told her, that a Friend of his met a Woman in the Play-house, who afterwards abused him, and and had taken 5 *l.* worth of Hair out of his Peruke, and had pick'd his Pocket; upon which she told Sir *Andrew* that she did believe, that for a Guinea she could help him to one would get the Things again: Upon which Sir *Andrew* reply'd, she was very kind, and desired he might drink a Glass of Wine with her after the Play was over; which she agreed to: And as soon as the Play was done, Capt. *Wagget* went out first, and forgetting the way fell down the Steps; upon which they went out *Drury-Lane* Way. Then Sir *Andrew* ask'd her if that was the Way to the *Rose-Tavern*, and she told him he might go thro' *Vinegar-Tard*, where Mr. *Cowland* met them, and put his Arm round her Neck; upon which Sir *Andrew* desired him to be civil, saying she was his Wife: but the Prisoner said he should not have two, upon which they drew their Swords, but no Pass was made, for the Crowd drove them to the *Rose-Tavern*, where Capt. *Wagget* came in and took upon him to make up the Quarrel. In the mean time Sir *Andrew* and she went into the Kitchen, and high Words passed between Capt. *Wagget* and

Mr. Cowland, who seemed to be very angry and would not put it up, but by much Importunity they were reconciled, and agreed to go up Stairs and take a Glass of Wine; upon which they called Sir Andrew out of the Kitchen, and Mr. Cowland went up foremost, and being about half way on the Stairs, drew his Sword and Scabbard out of his Belt, and Sir Andrew and she went next, and Capt. Wagget came last. That Mr. Cowland being come to the top of the Stairs, before Sir Andrew had spoken one Word, or gave him any Provocation, or could draw his Sword, ran him into the Belly, upon which she cried out Murther, and one of the Lord Warwick's Gentlemen came up and two more and apprehended Mr. Cowland, and that his Sword was bloody 5 Inches. This was confirm'd by other Evidences, and that afterwards Mr. Cowland desired to see Sir Andrew, which at length being granted, he taking an Opportunity leaped down Stairs, but was pursued and taken. It was likewise deposed of Sir Andrew, that he was a very civil quiet Gentleman, never given to quarrel, had an Estate of 2000 l. per Annum, was the last of all his Family, which was then extinct by his Death. The Prisoner had not any thing very material to say

say in his Defence; but called Persons to his Reputation. But however, the Matter being plain, the Jury found him guilty on the Statute of Stabbing, and acquitted him of the Murther, and of the Coroner's Inquest, and he received Sentence of Death. Being under Condemnation the *Ordinary* gives this Account of him: That from the beginning of his Confinement to his dying Hour, he express'd an extreme Sorrow not only for this, but all other of his Sins; said that he was put Apprentice to a Goldsmith: and in his younger Years lived a very sober and Religious Life, was frequent in Prayer, hearing Sermons and reading the Scriptures, and gave himself up to the Knowledge and Service of God. But having unhappily left this Pious Course, and abandon'd himself to the World, in following the sinful Pleasures thereof, that then the Spirit of Religion grew weak in him, and had no such Influence as before upon the Actions of his Life, which became more and more irregular. He told the *Ordinary*, that in the midst of his Miscarriages his Thoughts were sometimes tending towards God, and and there were some happy Intervals wherein he earnestly desired to return to his heavenly Father with full Purpose  
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## John Cowland. 181

and solemn Vows of Amendment. But the World had got such a fast hold of him, that he could not get rid of it, so that he broke all those Religious Vows of his as often as he had made them, so that he daily sunk deeper into Sin; and God from whom he had receeded and drawn back, having for a time left him to himself, he fell upon the Commission of that enormous Crime, which he then abhorred with the greatest Detestation imaginable, not only because he was to die for it, but because he had render'd himself so odious in the sight of God by it. He said the Remembrance of his Sins was then infinitely more bitter and grievous to his Spirit, than the vain and empty Pleasures of them had been sweet and agreeable to his Flesh; and that he must needs confess, from his own sad Experience, that had he but known the Regrets and Torments, which even in this World, a vicious Life brings upon a Man, he could not (tho' the Temptation had been never so great) have been ever drawn or allured to Sin; shewed all along great Signs of Repentance. He pray'd fervently and earnestly, desired the Prayers of others, that God would be merciful to his poor Soul Soul, and that he would give him Grace to become the greatest



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greatest Penitent, for he judged himself the greatest Sinner that ever was. He was Executed at Tyburn the 20th of December 1700.

## The LIFE, TRYAL, &c. of John Estrick.

**J**OHAN ESTRICK, alias *Howard*, alias *Thomas Walker*, alias *Benner*, alias *John Walker*, was born in *London*, and for some time follow'd the Trade of a Leather-Dresser, with his Father living in *Horsty-Down* in *Southwark*; but betaking himself to ill Courses, began with Pilfering from his own Father, and afterwards went to live with *Thomas Glover*, Esq; at *Hackney*, where by the Instigation of *John Proffer*, his Brother-in-Law, he at several times robbed his Master of Plate to the Value of 80 l. and falsely charged it on *Susannah Barnwell*, behaving himself so cunningly that he was not so much as suspected by his Master: But having by that means made up a Purse, he went away from his Master; and having first married a virtuous Woman, who knew nothing of his former Life, he set up a Glover's Shop near *Cripplegate*. He had

not been long set up but *Proffer* and another Person came to him and threatened him, that if he did not give them a Sum of Money they would turn Evidences against him as to the Robbing of Mr. *Glover*; upon which he gave them his Bond to pay them 15 *l.* a piece in a Month's time, upon which Bond they afterwards arrested him, and he thereupon broke, removed himself from the Spunging-House into the *Fleet*, but paid them the Money: But tho' he paid no Money to his Creditors he came out thence by paying seven Guineas and some Fees to the Warden, amounting to about 12 *l.* Being at Liberty, he went to one Mr. *King's* to lodge, who had been his Neighbour, a Clock-Maker in *Cock-Alley*, where he having been about a Fortnight, he, with a Key he had, opened a Box that was left by a Workman who had formerly lodged in the Room and took out of it 90 Guineas, 25 *l.* in Silver, several Gold Rings and a Gold Chain, and not being suspected went away, and took a House in *Long-Alley* in *Moorfields*, furnish'd it handsomely, intending to carry on his Trade of a Glover there. But he had not been long there before a certain Lodger of Mr. *King's*, who knew how poor he was when he came out of the

the *Fleet*, came to him, and told him, that he greatly suspected he had done some ill thing, and he should soon find it out, and would discover it, if he did not give him something to engage him to hold his Peace. Upon this he in haste sold off his Goods to loss, left his House, and went away to *Holland*, but returning again to *England* fell to his old Practice of Thieving again, being thereto prompted by his Brother-in-Law *John Proffer*. And after he had committed several Robberies he was apprehended and try'd at the *Old Baily*, the 2d of *March* 1702, for Felony and Burglary, in breaking the House of *John Bourn*, and stealing thence a Silver-hilted Sword, 30 Guineas, and 94 l. in Silver, a Silver Candlestick and other Plate. The Prosecutor deposed he took him into his Service by the Name of *Thomas Walker*, being recommended to him by *John Proffer* his Brother-in-Law, (who was also indicted for the same Fact, but for want of Evidence was acquitted; but being look'd upon by the Court to be a very ill Person, was order'd to find Sureties for his Good Behaviour for 12 Months) and having been there a little while he broke open the Compting-House and stole the Goods. Another Evidence deposed, that he being apprehended.

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hended and put into the *Compter* Prison, he there confessed that himself and his Brother-in-Law *John Prosser* broke the Compting-house about 12 a Clock at Night, and stole the Money and Goods, and that he had 35 £. and the Silver-hilted Sword for his Share. Upon his Tryal he had little to say in his Defence, the Jury thereupon found him Guilty of the Indictment. He was likewise indicted a 2d time for a Felony in stealing a Silver Cup, 3 Rings, a Cloth Coat, a Watch and other Goods, from *John Hurn* on the 20th of *January* preceding, to which Indictment he pleaded Guilty, and received Sentence to Die accordingly.

Being under Sentence of Death, and having little or no Hopes of a Reprieve, he began seriously to reflect upon the Errors of his mispent Life, show'd some visible Signs of Remorse and Penitence, acknowledged many of the Facts he had committed, telling the *Ordinary* that he had committed several by the Instigation of his Brother-in-Law *John Prosser*, who tho' he generally took Care not to commit the Facts himself, yet he had often put him upon robbing several Houses, and particularly that of the Reverend Mr. *Richardson* near *London-Wall*, and that they



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they both went to *Richmond* and broke and robbed several Houses, and in particular the House of *Sir John Buckworth*; that then coming to Town again they robbed *Mr. Thompson's* House near *Tyburn Road*: And some time after, being by the Contrivance of *John Prosser* recommended to *Dr. Bourn* as a Servant, he was no sooner with him but he robbed him of Goods to the Value of about 150 *l.* of which he had 40 *l.* for his Share, which he presently spent, and then robbed the House of *Mr. Hurn*, and not to name any more robb'd one *Mrs. Stevenson* of all her Clothes, leaving her in a manner quite naked. These Facts he confess'd with Grief and Concern of Mind. Being at the Place of Execution, he thus spoke to the Spectators. *Good People, take warning by my Fall; you see I am a young Man, who by my Sins have shortned my Days, and brought my self to this shameful but deserved Death. Take heed how you lead your Lives. Live not as I have done, lest you come to the like sad and untimely End. Break not the Sabbath-Day, and keep not Company with wicked Men and Lewd Women, as I have done. Those are the great Evils that have brought this Sorrow upon me. Avoid all manner of Sin, even the smallest; for from one little Sin*

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Men

*Men easily fall to the Commission of greater ones. I pray heartily to God to keep you from all Evil, and I beseech you to pray for me that God would have Mercy upon my poor Soul. And seeing his Sister, the Wife of John Prosser, among the Spectators, he thus addressed himself to her: Pray tell your Husband that he ought to remember this Judgment now inflicted upon him, and lay it to heart, and learn from it to amend his Ways and become a better Man, and endeavour for the future to live by an honest Industry, with which he might expect to prosper more tho' he got but 2d. a Day by it, than in getting Goods by unlawful Means, which cannot profit, but prove at last hurtful both to Body and Soul. He expressed a hearty Sorrow for having wrong'd his Wife, who he said was an innocent and virtuous Woman; and deliver'd a very affectionate Letter to the Ordinary to be sent to her. After he had performed the usual Publick Devotions he was left to his own private, and was executed at Tyburn the 26th Year of his Age, March the 10th, 1702-3.*

*The T R Y A L, &c. of Half-  
hang'd Smith.*

**J** O H N S M I T H, commonly call'd *Half-hang'd Smith*, was born at *Malton*, within fifteen Miles of the City of *York*, came up to *London* young, and served an Apprentiship with a Packer, and afterwards work'd Journey-work with his Master for some time, then went to Sea, first in the *Jeffery Gally*, a Merchant Ship, Mr. *Sown* Master, and afterward in the *Triumph*, a second Rate, commanded by Admiral *Greydon*, and was in the Expedition to *Vigo*: But being discharged after the Return of the Ship, listed himself a Soldier in the Lord *Cmrs*'s second Regiment of Guards under Capt. *Swan*. His pay not being sufficient to supply his extravagant Expences, he took to Thieving and House-breaking, and committed divers Facts, and at length was indicted at the *Old Baily* the 5th of *December* 1705, for stealing 50 Pair of Mens Shoes from *William Cox*, near *Leaden-Hall-Market*. The Prosecutor deposed, That his Shop was broken open and the Goods stollen. Another Evidence deposed, That himself and *Smith* broke open the Door about six in the

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Morn-

## Half-bang'd Smith. 189

Morning and stole the Goods, and that they had gone a Thieving together for 6 or 7 Years. However he denied the Fact, but nevertheless the Jury found him Guilty. He was indicted a second time for breaking the Warehouse of *Peter Hollander* in *Mincing-Lane*, and stealing 900 Yards of Garlick Holland the 5th of *November*. It appeared that he and two others did the Robbery and shared the Goods between them, as was deposed by the Wife of one of his Accomplices, and also by another who was with him in the Robbery. He was indicted a third time for breaking the Warehouse of *Martha Leeton* the 28th of *Feb.* 1704, and stealing 400 lb. weight of China Silk, value 350 l. the Goods of *Joseph Billowes*, but for want of Evidence was acquitted. He was a fourth time indicted for stealing 148 Pair of Gloves and 22 Pair of Stockings, from *Richard Higley*, the 3d of *December*. It appeared by the Evidence the Shop had been broken open, and that *Smith* was taken in the Shop, the Goods being bundled up in readiness to be carried off. The Jury found him Guilty of this Indictment.

While he lay under Sentence of Death he made but little Preparation for it, buoying himself up with the Hopes of a Reprieve;



Reprieve; but when he found himself disappointed he was very much incensed against the Persons who had undertaken to procure him one. Being come to the Place of Execution he desired that all would take warning by his untimely Death, which none but himself by his Sins had brought him to; and having performed the usual Devotions at the Tree, was turned off, the 12th of *December*, 1705. But by that time he had been hanging about a quarter of an Hour, there was an Out-cry of a Reprieve; upon which he was immediately cut down and carried to the House hard by, where being presently let Blood, he came to himself, and was carried back to *Newgate*. Being enquir'd of concerning the Experience he had gain'd by hanging, he gave the following Account; That when he was first turned off he for some time was sensible of a very great Pain, occasioned by the Weight of his Body, and felt his Spirits in a strange Commotion, violently pressing upwards, that having forc'd their way to his Head, he as it were saw a great Blaze or glaring Light, which seemed to go out at his Eyes as it were with a Flash, and then he lost all sense of Pain. That after he was cut down and began to come to himself, the

[Vol. II.] Blood

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## Half-hang'd Smith. 191

Blood and Spirits having been pent, forcing themselves into their former Channels, put him by a sort of pricking or shooting to so intolerable a Pain, that he could have wish'd those hang'd that had cut him down. He pleaded to his Pardon the 20th of *February* 1705. But as he had been but half hang'd, so it appear'd he was but half cur'd of his dishonest and thievish Inclinations; for tho' at first he for some time kept himself within the Limits of private Frauds and Petty Larcenies, at length (when the pain of hanging was worn out of his Memory) he presumed to enter again upon his former Practice of House-breaking, and was apprehended and indicted the 29th of *April*, 1715. for breaking the Dwelling-house of *John Cooper* on the 28th of *Jan.* preceding in the Night-time, with Intention to steal. He was also indicted for the same Crime in breaking the Warehouse of *Benjamin Longuet* and Partners (which Warehouse was the lower Room of Mr. *Cooper's* House). The Evidence deposed the Warehouse having been three times broken open and the Goods stolen away, two Watchmen were put in to lie in wait for the Thieves, if they came again; and that about 5 in the Morning, *April* 29. they heard a Noise, and saw the  
Stock

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Stock of the Warehouse-Door unlock'd, and soon after the Padlock was wrench'd off, and *John Smith* enter'd, and one of the Watchmen struck at him, but missing him he ran away as far as *Rood-lane-end*, where he was taken, and upon search the Padlock with several Picklock-Keys and a Tobacco-box with Tinder and Matches in it were found in his Pocket. The Fact being thus plainly proved upon him, he was found guilty of breaking into the House or Warehouse, as set forth in the Indictment; but whether it were Burglary, or in which of the Places, the Jury left special to be determined by the Judges; and continuing in *Newgate* till *Monday Nov. 10. 1716.* he was brought to the Bar, and by the Opinion of the Judges on the Special Verdict brought against him for breaking the House of *John Longuet* was acquitted; and another brought against him for the same Fact in the Name of *John Cooper*, but the Prosecutor happening to be dead, and so no body appearing against him, he had the unmerited good Fortune to be acquitted. Thus having obtained his Enlargement, he began to play his old Game again, for which he is now a Prisoner in the Work-house, where for the present we shall leave him.

THE

The LIFE, TRYAL, and  
BEHAVIOUR under Con-  
demnation, and CONFESSION  
OF  
Harman Strodtman,  
A  
ROBBER and MURDERER.

**H**ARMAN STRODTMAN was  
Indicted at the Sessions-  
House in the Old Bailey on  
Three Indictments; the First  
for the Murther of his Fellow-Servant,  
*Peter Wolter*, the 27th of *April*, 1701.  
and the Second for breaking the Dwel-  
ling-House of the *Messieurs Stein* and  
*Dorien*, and stealing a Watch and divers  
other Goods, the Property of the said  
*Peter Wolter*. The Third for stealing  
divers Goods, the Property of *Herman*  
*Frederick Dorien*, the Day above-men-  
tioned. The Evidence deposed, the  
Prisoner having been by the said *Messieurs*  
*Stein* and *Dorien*, about three Days be-  
fore the Commission of the Fact, turned  
K away



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away for some Misdemeanours, went and took a Lodging at the *Sun-Alc-House* in *Queen-Street*, telling the Master of the *House* that his Father was a Merchant in *Saxony*, that he came to *England* to learn the *English* Tongue, and was to go from *England* to the *West Indies*, and that his Clothes were to come that Night, being *Saturday-Night*, by the Carrier; and about *Eight of the Clock* he told his Landlord he was going out to drink with some Countrymen, and was afraid he should not come home in good time; but if he did not come by *Eleven of the Clock* they might go to Bed and not expect him; which they did, he not coming by that time. But on *Sunday-Morning* about *Five or Six a Clock* he came Home, knockt at the Door, and Brought a Bundle, which he said were his Clothes from the Carriers; and carrying them up Stairs, locked himself into the Room, which Clothes were proved to be the Deceased's.

Mr. *Stear* deposed, That on the *Saturday* the Prisoner came to fetch away his Clothes; but he not being at leisure to look into his Trunk, told him he must come another time; upon which the Prisoner, as he thought, went away. But the next Morning (*viz. Sunday*) about

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bout Four or Five of the Clock the Maid came to him, telling him there was a Smoak in the House, and she suspected some part of the House was on Fire. Upon which he searching perceived the Smoak come through the Chinks of the Deceased's Chamber-Door, whereupon he went in, and the Maid in the mean time went for a Pail of Water, and he entring the Room saw the Chest of Drawers on Fire, and threw the Water on it, and quenched it. That the Maid going to the Deceased's Bed-side, supposing him to be asleep, shook him; but found he was dead, tho' warm; so sent away immediately for a Surgeon to bleed him, when he came he could not make the Deceased bleed, but pulling off his Night-Cap, they found he had a Bruise on the Left side of his Head near his Eye; that the Skin not being broke, the Surgeon made an Incision, and found a great Fracture, the Skull being broken into three pieces. That then searching the Chest of Drawers, he saw the Deceased's Watch, Clothes, &c. were gone. He then suspecting the Prisoner to have been concerned in the matter, laid out to apprehend him, which he did the next Day (being *Monday*) in *Lombard-Street*, going to receive Money upon a

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Bill that they found in his Pocket, which Bill was in the Custody of the Deceased the *Saturday* Night before the Fact was committed, and that the Prisoner had about him divers Pick-lock Keys. When he was first apprehended he would not confess the Fact, till he was carried before Sir *Humphry Edwin*, when he confess'd it, and where the Goods and divers other Bills were, which were found in his Lodging as he had directed. He owned he got into the House by Night, staid in an empty Room till One a Clock, then enter'd the Deceased's Room, and being busy in stealing the Things, heard the Deceased stir; upon which he took up a Cane and with it gave him the Wound of which he died, and afterwards set fire to the Chest of Drawers in order to fire the House, and then made his Escape out at a Window into an empty House, with the Goods, where he staid till the next Morning, because he could not get out of *Austin Fryars*, the Gates of the Place being kept lock'd till the Watchman went off in the Morning. However, upon his Tryal the Prisoner denied the Fact, and the above-mentioned Confession, saying that he made it upon the Promise of Mr. *Stein*, he telling him he should not stay an Hour in

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in *England*, for he would send him to Sea, which induced him to take it upon himself rather than to make a long Defence. In Court he pleaded that he went to *Camberwell*, and from thence to the *Red House* at *Deptford*, where he was met by a Press-Gang, who prest him; but he speaking nothing but *Dutch* to them, they let him go: And being in an Ale-house, he fell into the Acquaintance of a Man, who was called *John* the Painter, to whom he told, That he being come from his Master, his Master had stopped his Clothes, and desired him to go along with him to fetch them, which he did, getting in privately, staying in an empty Room till One of the Clock, and then went into the Deceased's Chamber; and that this *John* the Painter struck the Deceased with a piece of Wood; whereupon he told him he had done a very ill thing, and he would not be concerned any farther; and that the said *John* the Painter took the Goods and set fire to the House, and they went away together, and when he came to his Landlord's Door and knock'd, the other gave the Goods to him. But as this Story not being so probable as his Confession before Sir *Humphry Edwin*, and were it true would not be a sufficient



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Excuse, the Jury found him Guilty of all the Indictments, and he received Sentence to Die accordingly. After which he began to consider seriously of the Heinousness of his Sin, and became very penitent, and out of remorse of Conscience made a very ingenuous and ample Confession of his Crimes; crying mightily to God to pardon all his Sins, praying that the Blood of Christ might wash away the Stain of that Blood, which he had unjustly shed. And when Mr. *Paul Lorrain*, the Ordinary, acquainted him that the Dead Warrant was come, in order to his Execution, and that therefore he ought to quicken his Pace in the Path of Eternal Life, for that he had but a very few Days to live here; He reply'd, *The Lord's Will be done, I am ready to die, I am willing to die; only I beg of God that I may not (as I deserve) die an Eternal Death; and though I die here for my most heinous and enormous Crimes, yet I may for the Love of Christ live eternally with him in Heaven*, saying a great deal more of the like Nature, with a great deal of Fervency and Humility, and all the signs of true Contrition that could be; adding, *God bless the King, and all my honourable Judges, they have done me no wrong; but 'tis I have done great Wrong.*

*The*

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The Lord be merciful to me, to me a great Sinner, else I perish. At sometimes, considering the Heinousness of his Sin, he was ready to despond; despairing of Salvation; I fearing his Repentance was not great enough; but then again would feel that Comfort of Mind, as to hope that he was really made sorry as to Godly Manner, that abidingly (Strong) would work in him Repentance & Salvation, not to be repent (also). In this Frame of Spirit he continued during his Confinement and in his way to the Place of Execution, where he was observed to keep his Hands lift up some considerable time after the Cart was drawn from under him. He deliver'd to the Ordinary a Paper, the Contents of which you have below.

### The Confession of Harman Strodtman deliver'd to the Ordinary of Newgate.

**I**N the Year 1683, or a little before, I was born at Revel in Liffland; and had the Happiness to come of a good Family; my Parents being Persons of some Account in the World, and also

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Godly and Religious People, who took great care of my Education.

About the Year 1694, my Father sent me to School to *Lubeck*, where I continued till *Michaelmas* 1698.

From thence I went to *Hamburg*, and staid there till I set out for *England*.

I arrived at *London* the 18th Day of *March* following,

and (together with one *Peter Wolter*, who came with me into *England*) was (or at least I thought myself to be) bound Ap-

prentice to Mr. *Stein* and Mr. *Dorien*, Merchants, and Partners in *London*.

*Peter Wolter* and my self having been Fellow-Travellers, and being now Fellow-Pren-

tices, we liv'd for some time very friendly and lovingly together, till about *August* last, when his Sister was marry'd to

one of our Masters, Mr. *Dorien*. Then he began to be so proud, and so very

much domineering over me, and abusive to me, that I could not bear it.

We had several Fallings-out, and he did twice beat me, once before the Maids of the

House in the Kitchen, and at another time in the Compting-house;

and did (besides that) often complain and tell Tales of me to my Masters;

thereby raising their Displeasure against me, and creating me their Ill-will;

so that they kept me close at home, and would not

not

## Harman Strodtman. 201

not give me the same Liberty, which my Fellow-Prentice (and my self before) had, of going abroad (sometimes) for Recreation. Upon this Account I conceiv'd an implacable Hatred against him, and the Devil put it into my Heart to be revenged of him at any rate. First I design'd to do it by Poison, having (to that purpose) mixt some Mercury with a certain white Powder, which he had always in a Glass in the Chamber, and of which he us'd to take a Dose very often, for the Scurvy. But it being then Winter-time (I think the latter End of *December*, or beginning of *January*) I found he had left off taking of his Powder; and so I might wait long enough before I could see the Effects of my Poison, if I staid till the time he was to take that Powder again. Therefore I thought of another way to dispatch him, and this was by Stabbing him. And as I was, or thought my self, daily abus'd by him, so my Hatred and Spirit of Revenge grew hotter and hotter against him every Day; inso-much that now I came to be apprehensive, that if I continu'd longer in the House, I could not forbear at last doing him open Mischief, and laying violent Hands upon him. Whereupon I desired one of the Maids to beg of my



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Masters to send me to the *West-Indies*; but they resolving nothing in the Matter, and I being in haste about it, shew'd my self very uneasy under this Uncertainty; and my Anger against my Fellow-prentice did so increase, that the *Dutch Maid* took great notice of it to me, and gave me very good Advice of being meek, and patient, and Dutiful, which it would have been a very happy thing for me to have taken. But I was under too great a Temptation to be in any condition of receiving good Admonitions from Friends. The great Enemy of my Soul was now very busie about me, and would not let me rest till I had executed this damnable Design he had put me upon. On *Good Friday* Morning, my Masters sending me of an Errand, I took from thence opportunity to go to *Greenwich*, with a design to return home on *Saturday*; but being now unwilling to kill my Fellow-prentice before he had received the Sacrament, which he was to do on *Easter-Day*, I stay'd at *Greenwich*, and on the *Saturday* sent a Letter to my Masters, telling them (what the Father of Lies had dictated to me) that I was pressed, and was to go to *Chatham*, and there to be put on board of one of the *King's Ships*. On *Easter-Monday*, being still

still at *Greenwich*, I was met there by a young Man, who knew me, and at his return to *London* (as I heard) told my Masters, that he thought I was not prest, as I pretended. Upon which my Master *Stern* (as I have been inform'd) going down to *Chatham*, to know certainly whether it was so, or no, did not find that any such young Man, as my self, had of late been prest there, or brought thither. On *Easter-Day* as I was at *Greenwich*, I went to Church there, both Morning and Afternoon; but the Lord forgive me, my Heart was then very far from being intent on any thing that was good. Towards the Evening I came to Town, and lay that Night at a certain Inn (the *Dolphin* I think) without *Bishopsgate*; and the next Morning returned to *Greenwich*, and was there and at *Woolwich*, up and down thereabouts, till the next *Tuesday*, when I came up to Town, and lay in *Leinbard-street*, and on *Wednesday* Morning went down again to *Greenwich*. On *Thursday* Evening I came to Town again, and return'd to *Greenwich* no more. Now being come to Town for good and all, I went to my Masters, and told them by Word of Mouth, what I had writ to them before, namely, That I was prest. But they

they said they could not believe it; for they had made Enquiry into that Matter upon the Place, and found no such thing; and so were very angry with me, and bid me be gone. Upon which I went away, and took Lodgings in *Moorfields*, and lay there both that Night and *Friday* Night; and on *Saturday* I took other Lodgings at the Sign of the *Sun*, an Ale-house in *Queen-street, London*. Now I had a Key of the Fore-door of my Masters House, which I got made for me a long time before *Christmas*, by that which was my Masters, and this was for my private Use, that I might (unknown to my Masters) go in and out, at any time when I had a mind to it; intending at first no other Use of it, but my having the liberty of taking my Pleasure abroad oftner than my Masters would allow. But the Devil at last taught me another Use of this Key. For by the help of it I came to my Masters House on *Saturday* in *Easter-Week*, about half an Hour past Eight at Night; and being got in, I first hid my self behind the Entry Door, upon my hearing a Noise of some body's going up Stairs. When this was over, and I supposed the Way was clear, I went up one pair of Stairs first; and entering the Room, where I  
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to lie, next to the Compting-house, I went to a Tinder-box (which I knew was there) and having struck Fire, lighted a Candle. Then I took my Masters Dark-lanthorn that was there also, and went up another pair of Stairs higher, and having got into an empty Room adjoining to *Peter Wolter's* Chamber, I did shut my self in there: Where I was no sooner come but I heard a Noise, as if some body was coming up: Upon which I put out my Candle, and some time after fell asleep. About Twelve a-Clock being awake, and supposing that by this time *Peter Wolter* and the rest of the Family were a-bed, and fast asleep, after I had been some time hearkening, and perceiv'd all were very quiet in the House, I went down again to my Room one pair of Stairs, where the Tinder-box lay, and having lighted my Candle a second time, enter'd the Compting-house, and there took out several Notes and Bills, and some Money too; and then went up again two pair of Stairs; carrying with me a certain piece of Wood, wherewith they used to beat Tobacco, which I found in my Chamber. When I was got up Stairs, I sprung into *Peter Wolter's* Chamber, and coming to his Bed-side, open'd the Curtains, and with my



my Tobacco-beater knockt him on the Head, giving him four or five Blows on the left side of it, and another on the right. When I had given him the first Blow, then my Heart failed me; yet being afraid to be discover'd by the Noise he made with groaning, I followed close this first Blow with three or four others; and then had not Courage enough to go on with giving him any more. Therefore, to stop his Groans, I took his Pillow, and laying it on his Mouth, pressed it hard upon it with my Elbow, as I was sitting on the side of his Bed; and by this means stopp'd his Breath and stifled him. And thus it was, that I most barbarously murder'd this poor Creature; whom I intended (had this fail'd) to have shot to Death, having brought with me two Pistols ready charg'd for that wicked purpose. *The Lord forgive me this Sin!* When I perceived *Peter Walter* was quite Dead, I proceeded to search his Breeches and Chest-of-Drawers, and took a Note of 20 *l.* with some Money, out of his Pocket; which (with that I had taken in the Compting-house) amounted to 8 or 9 *l.* Then I pack'd up some of his Linnen and Woollen Clothes, and having made a Bundle of them, went down with it one pair of Stairs, and out of a Window

Window there, threw it into the next House, where no body dwelt. Then I went up Stairs again, and having cut my Candle in two (both pieces being lighted) I set one in the Chest of Drawers, and the other on a Chair, close by the Bed-Curtains; intending to have burnt the House, in order to conceal by this heinous Fact, the other two of Theft and Murther, which through the Instigation of the Devil, I had now most barbarously committed. Then I went through a Window, out of the House, into that where I had flung the Bundle; and staying there till about Five in the Morning, went away with that Bundle (and what else I had took) to my Lodgings in *Queen-street*, where I put on clean Clothes, and then went to the *Sweeds* Church in *Trinity-lane*. There I heard the Bill of Thanks read which my Masters had put up for their own and Neighbours Preservation; At which my Heart sunk down, and I had great Checks of Conscience, and could not forbear shedding of Tears, which I hid (all I could) from an Acquaintance of my Masters, who was in the same Pew with me, and told me, that my Masters House was like to have been burnt the last Night, it being set on Fire by an Accident

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dent yet unknown ; but the mischief which it might have done, was (through God's Mercy) happily prevented, by the *Dutch Maid*, who first smelt the Fire, and saw the Smoak, and thereupon called her Master, and fetch'd up a Pail of Water ; by which means it was presently put out. This he told me at large as we were come out of the Church ; and at our parting he and I appointed to meet one another at two of the Clock upon the Out-Walks of the *Royal Exchange* ; in order to go together to the *Dutch Church* in the *Savoy*. I went to the *Exchange* accordingly ; and walked thereabouts, waiting for him a while : But he not coming, as he had promised me, I went alone (not to the *Savoy*, as intended) but to *Stepney Church*. And after Sermon walked in the Fields towards *Mile-end*, where I saw at a distance two *Dutch Men* that were hang'd there in Chains. Then I was struck with some Remorse and Fears, and said to my self, *Thou may'st come to be one of them, and be made a like Spectacle to the World*. After this, as I went on, I came to *Blackwall* (as I think) and there saw another Person (a Captain of *French Pirates*) who also hang'd in Chains in that Place. Then the same Thoughts again returned

returned upon me, viz. That it may come to my lot to have such a shameful End. Thus Providence having led me to those dismal and ghastly Objects, I came back to my Lodgings with heavy Thoughts about me; but not at all awa-ken'd to Repentance; for I was in a Spiritual Slumber; still under the Power and Dominion of the Devil, so as my Heart did not relent at what I had done; but on the contrary, I had it yet in my Mind (as I had conceived it before) that if I had failed of murdering my Fellow-Prentice in his Bed, I would have destroy'd him some other way, and particularly design'd to have Pistol'd him, as he was going for his Masters Letters to the *Post-House*, or at his coming back from thence; as I had also once lain in wait under the Arch in *Austin Fryars* to have done it, if he had come out at that time. Now being come back from my distracted Walks to my Lodgings at the *Sun Ale-house*, I supp'd and went to Bed, after I had said my Prayers; but (God knows) I was then in a very unfit Condition to pray, But the Lord has since been infinitely gracious and merciful to me, in giving me a Heart (as well as a Mouth) to pray: For which his glorious Name be eternally praised. The next  
Day,



Day, being the second *Monday* after *Easter*, I went in the Morning to the *White-Horse-Inn* without *Cripplegate*, to receive Money upon one of those Bills I had stollen out of my Masters House, namely the 20 *£* Bill; but the Man that should have paid it, being said to be then gone out, I was desired to come again about Twelve, which I did. In the mean time I went to a Goldsmith, one that I knew, in *Lombard-street*, who would have sent me that Morning (as he said) with some Money to his Sister, who was at a Boarding-School at *Greenwich*; but I told him I could not go before the next Day, and then he would. Before I came away from him, he told me, that a young Man (one *Green* by Name) had been there enquiring after me. Upon which I desired him to tell that young Man, if he came again, that I would come back to look for him there about One. Then I hasted to the *White-Horse-Inn* again, and found the Party from whom I thought to have received the Money upon the Bill I brought to him; but he told me he had no Order to pay it. With this Answer I returned to my Lodgings, and after I had dined, I went again to the Goldsmith's in *Lombard-street*, where I found my Master *Stein* with

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With another Gentleman, and my Country-man *Green*. My Master ask'd me whether I would go willingly to his House, or be carried thither by two Porters, I said I would go. So after some Questions about the horrid Facts I had committed at his House, and my denying of them, I was search'd, and the Bill of 20 *l.* which was in the Deceased's Pocket, was found upon me. Then he asking me where I lay, I told him in *Moorfields*; so we went thither, and came to my former Lodgings; but the People of the House told him, I did not lie there now, nor had done since last *Friday* Night. By this my Master finding that I was unwilling to let him know where I had layn, or how I had disposed of those Things which I had stolen out of his House, promised me that if I would confess, no harm should come to me; for he would take care to send me presently beyond Seas. Upon this I freely told him all the Truth; where I lay, and where those Goods of his were, as we were walking together. So he presently took a Coach, and carried me first to my Lodgings in *Queen-street* (where he received the Bills and Clothes, Money and all that I had thus stolen) and then he carried me to Sir *Humphry Edwin*; who

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who upon his Examination of me, and my own Confession of all these Facts, did (most justly, I must acknowledge it, and the Providence of God in it) commit me to *Newgate*; where I must leave it to others to relate how I have behaved myself, during my Confinement. This only I will say, that if I had been try'd the first Sessions after my being there, I would have pleaded Guilty, according as I was advised by the Minister of *Newgate*, and other my Spiritual Teachers and good People. But I was taught by some Persons in *Newgate*, to deny all upon my Tryal, they framing for me and industriously teaching me the Story of *John* the Painter, and all that stuff, which I then alledged at the Bar for my Defence: All which I now confess to be utterly false in every part of it; I not knowing any such Person in the World as *John* the Painter; and none being privy to, or aiding me in those hellish Crimes of mine, but the Devil, who had put me upon them. And this I do not only confess with Sincerity, but heartily repent of, and with the greatest Sorrow and Humility beg God's Pardon for my having endeavoured, with presumptuous Lyes, to conceal what God would have brought to light, and openly

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ly punish me for in this World, that I might (I hope) avoid Eternal Punishment in the next. I therefore give him the greatest Thanks I am capable of, for the Time, and Opportunity, and Grace, he has given me to repent, and to be reconciled to him, through the Blood of my Saviour Jesus Christ; and I earnestly pray him to bless all those who have been Instruments of my Apprehension and Condemnation, as well as of my Conversion. To bless the King with a long Life and prosperous Reign upon Earth, and to give him at last the immortal Crown of Glory. To bless all my Judges, whose Justice to me I again acknowledge, and my unjust Denial to them of the Facts I stood charg'd with before them, I humbly ask their Pardon for. And I pray God from my Heart to remember in his Mercy my poor Father (if yet alive) and my Sisters and my Brother, with all the rest of my Friends and Relations; and to bless and prosper my Masters and their Families; To pardon all my Enemies (if I have any) and to pour down his Blessings upon all good People of God; upon his Church, these Nations, and the whole World; and to have infinite Mercy upon my sinful Soul. This I implore on the bended Knees of  
my



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my Heart, overwhelm'd with Grief, and bathed in Tears of sincere Repentance; Acknowledging, that if God were no more merciful to me, than I was to that poor Creature, whom I barbarously Murthered, I should be undone to all Eternity. But he is infinitely good and gracious, who will not suffer my Soul to perish. Therefore I will magnifie him, as long as I live; and within a few Hours, sing with the blessed Saints above, the joyful Song of Deliverance and of Praise and Hallelujah to him, my heavenly Father, and to my dear Redeemer, for evermore. *Amen and Amen.*

*Newgate, June 17. 1701.*

*Harman Strodtman.*

I have freely given this true and impartial Account of my self and sinful Actions; to the World, that all Men (both Young and Old) might take Warning by me, who once little thought I should ever be capable of committing such foul and enormous Crimes. But having neglected to serve God, as I ought to have done; and both my private and publick Prayers, and my hearing of good Sermons, having been out of Custom and Shew, more than out of hearty Devotion to God, the Devil  
had

had thereby great hold on me; and thus making slight of the Word of Life, and being only a formal and hypocritical, and not a true and hearty Servant of God, laid my self open to all Temptations. Let this therefore be a warning to other Men, and let them take care how they do serve God; how they are inwardly and religiously affected with his Worship; and let me here advise all young Persons, Prentices and Servants, not to give up themselves to the Allurements, to the Love and Pleasures, and Lusts, of the World, the Flesh and the Devil; but to watch and pray, lest they fall into Temptation; To be sober and vigilant, because their Adversary the Devil, as a roaring Lion, walks about seeking whom he may devour. Let me beseech them all to be sincerely Religious towards God, Dutiful to their Masters, Just and Charitable to all Men, and keep their Bodies in Sobriety, Temperance and Chastity. And let me also give this Advice to Masters, that they do not discourage or provoke their Servants by using too great Harshness and Severity towards them; or by their Partiality to them (where there is no just ground for it) create any Heart-burning, or Hatred and Animosity among them. And now

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I am going to leave this World for ever, before I have liv'd long enough in it to know either it or my self; but now by the Divine Grace that has open'd my Eyes, and set me in a clearer Light, I am come within Sight and Apprehension of better Things; Let me (I say) for once and ever advise all Men to be warn'd by my Fall, and take great care to their Ways, that they do not stumble upon the Snares of Satan, as I have done, and perhaps have not the same Divine Mercy and Help given them for their Recovery, as I have had; for which I love and praise my great Maker and Redeemer, and will adore him to all Eternity. *So Lord Jesus! come; yea, come quickly.*

HARMAN STRODTMAN.

*Here follows Harman Strodtman's last Speech, and Prayers, by him made in English, and delivered at the Place of Execution.*

### THE SPEECH.

*Gentlemen, and Gentlemen,*

**I** Am come hither to die an accursed and ignominious Death, and I most justly deserve it, for I have murther'd

a poor innocent Creature, and (for ought I know) have not only murther'd his Body; for if God had no more Mercy on his Soul, than I had on his Body, he would be undone to all eternity. So that I deserve not only Death from Men, but Damnation from God. And I would desire all that look upon me, to take warning by me. The first Sin I began with, was Sabbath-breaking; and as soon as I had put my dear God from before my Eyes, the Devil took possession of my Heart; and so I began to hate, and afterwards to Murther this poor innocent Creature; for which I am now come to this shameful end. I was drawn aside, I say, by the Devil, because I would not follow my good God. Oh! take heed of this, for it will not only bring your Bodies to an untimely end, but your Souls to Hell. Have a care of neglecting the Sabbath, for it is that which hath not only brought my Body to this shameful Death, but hath also put my Soul in danger of Eternal Torments. Pray make trial of the ways of God, for (the Lord be prais'd) I have found so much Excellency and Sweetness in them, that I have reason to bless God that ever I came into a Prison. And now, tho' I am leaving this World, I

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know



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know I shall go to a better place, which my Saviour Christ, by his meritorious Death, hath purchased for me. In whom I trust, heartily repenting me of all my Sins, not because they have brought me to this Death, but because by dishonouring my God, I have deserved the Torments of Hell-Fire.

*His Prayers.*

**O** Most merciful, and ever blessed Lord God, I beseech thee look down upon me with an Eye of pitty: it is thy infinite Mercy that I am on this side the Grave, and out of Hell; for I have deserved to be cast into Eternal Torments. O how have I offended thee, and run on in Sin? as if I had thought I could never enough abuse thy Mercy. O pardon the Sins I have committed, wash from my Soul the Stain of the Blood I have shed. It is a horred Crime to shed innocent Blood. O Lord, pardon that Sin; and let the Blood of Christ cry louder for Mercy, than the Blood I have shed cries for Vengeance. Thou hast been very merciful to me, O Lord, in giving me time to repent. O Lord forgive! O Lord pardon me! I knew not what I did. Pardon my Sabbath-breaking, Lying, Cursing, and this Murder; forgive my Drunkenness; blot all

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all my Iniquities out of the Book of thy Remembrance; cast them out of thy sight for ever; for through thy Grace I have repented of them from my Soul, that ever I should offend so good, so gracious and merciful a God and Father. I do believe in thee, O Lord! and do wholly throw my self upon thee. I acknowledge it would be just with thee to damn my Soul; but thy infinite Mercy will be magnified in saving me, and thy Grace in pardoning me. Bodily Death is terrible, but how much more dreadful is the loss of my Soul to all Eternity! Let not the many Instructions thou hast afforded me, be in vain! O let me not sink down to Hell; but let me bless and praise thy Name for ever, for what thou hast done for me. Thou hast wrought upon my Heart; thou hast helped me to repent praised for ever be thy Name. Lord I desire to be humbled more and more under the sense of my Sins, for they are great, there are many Souls in Hell, that have not committed such heinous Sins as I have. O what a Mercy is it, that I am not in those devouring Flames. Lord, as thou hast spared me hitherto, so spare and save me to Eternity! Let not my Soul perish. O Lord, reveal thy self unto me; Shed abroad thy Love in my Heart. Tell me my Sins

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are Pardoned ; assure me of an interest in Christ, before I go hence and be seen no more, that I may declare to thy People what thou hast done for my Soul: As this will be to my great Comfort and Satisfaction, so will it be for thy Glory. Blessed Lord, pardon my Sins, and take away from me this cursed base Heart of mine, break my rocky Heart. This Sin of Murther was long before contrived in my Heart. I thought no Eye did see me ; but thou did'st see me. Lord turn my Heart to thee, and take away from me this Heart of Stone ; take away my cursed Nature, which hath led me to these Sins, and to this End, and endangered the loss of my Soul to all Eternity. But, Lord, though I am a great Sinner, Christ is a greater Saviour ; he is able to save me from my Sins, be they never so great ; Lord I believe (I speak from my Heart as far as I know it) I do believe. It is my grief I can sorrow no more for my Sins, by which I have offended thee so much, and so long a time. One drop of thy Blood sprinkled upon my Soul, will blot out all my Sins. Lord cross the black Lines of my Sins, with the red Lines of thy Blood. I am not able to answer for one vain Thought, much less for all my horrid Crimes. Lord

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Lord save my immortal Soul, that it may sing Praises to thee, to all Eternity. Thou hast pardoned *Manasseh*, the Thief upon the Cross, *St. Paul*, and *Mary Magdalen*, who were all great Sinners: And thy Mercies are now as great as ever; thy love to repenting Sinners is not shortened; and tho' my Sins be great, thy Mercies are yet greater. Lord be with me in the Hour of my Death! Then let me have some comfortable assurance of the pardon of my Sins. O be thou my God and Guide, now, hence forth, and to all Eternity. *Amen.*

O most merciful and ever blessed Lord God, I beseech thee look down upon my poor Soul, which is now taking its flight hence into another World, and suddenly to appear at thy Bar. O Lord I beseech thee prepare me for it, and receive my Soul into the Arms of thy Mercy; and tho' I am here come to die this shameful Death, yet let my Soul live with thee for ever. Lord pardon all the horrid Sins I have committed, Sabbath-breaking, Lying, Swearing, Cursing, Murther, Uncleaness, and all the rest of my Sins, that ever I have committed. Lord give me a new Heart, and Faith whereby I may be enabled to lay hold on thee, and to cast my self



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wholly upon thee. O grant unto me saving Repentance, that from thy Barr I may be received into Glory. Let me not be a prey to Devils, to all Eternity; and tho' this Body die, let my Soul live with thee. O shut me not out from thy Presence. O let not all the Prayers, Tears, Counsels, and Instructions offered up on my behalf, and given to me, be in vain. Lord pitty my poor immortal Soul! It would be just with thee indeed, to cast me into everlasting Burnings; but tho' I have been a great Sinner, Christ is a greater Saviour. Lord! thou hast pardoned great Sinners, thou canst do it, and wilt not thou do it? O let me not be a Fire-brand in Hell, and a Prey to Devils, nor be shut up with them, and damn'd Souls, when my Soul takes its flight hence into another World. Lord thou hast given me Grace to repent from the bottom of my Heart, and I have repented. It would be just with thee to damn me, but how infinitely more will it be for the glory of thy Free-grace, to save so great a Sinner as I am. Good Lord! pour down thy Spirit upon me; assure me that I have an interest in Christ's Blood before I go hence. Lord I am willing, I am willing to leave this World. I can prize thee  
above

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above all; there is nothing I do prize in comparison of thee, and wilt thou not receive my Soul? O receive it into thy Arms, and say, *Come thou blessed of my Father*, Good Father, for Jesus Christ's sake pity my poor Soul. It is not my Prayers or Tears can save my Soul; Free-grace, and the Blood of Christ alone can do this. And if there be not a sufficiency in his Blood to atone for my Sins, I am willing to be damned. Lord, look down upon my poor Soul, and notwithstanding I have been so great and so vile a Sinner, thou canst pardon me, and wash me clean from all my guilt. Apply one drop of thy Blood to my Soul, my immortal Soul, that is of more worth than ten thousand Worlds. I confess I have taken a great deal of Pleasure in Sin; I have run on headlong in Sin, and was wont to make it my study, in what Place and Company I had best spend the Sabbath-day in sin and vanity. O Lord pardon me! wash me clean, and receive me into thy Arms. Oh! for one glimpse of thy Mercy and Love! Lord, if thou wilt be pleased to reveal thy Love to me, I shall declare it to all that behold me. It is a Mercy, Lord, that I am not in Hell; and that thou hast been pleased to shew we the bitterness of Sin before I go

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hence. It is of thy Mercy O Lord ! that I have had the Prayers, Converse, and Instructions of so many of thy Ministers and People. Lord receive my Soul ! One Smile, one Word of Comfort for Jesus's sake. Tho' I killed a poor innocent Creature, deal not thou with me, as I dealt with him ; but pitty me ! pitty me, for Jesus Christ's sake ! *Amen.*

Lond. in Newgate,  
June 18, 1701.

HARMAN STRODTMAN.

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THE  
LIFE, TRYAL, &c.  
OF  
*James Wadsworth.*

**J**AMES WADSWORTH, alias *Jemmy the Mouth*, born in London, was the Son of a *Barbary* Leather-dresser ; who being a Man in tolerable Circumstances in the World, omitted nothing to give him a good Education, sent him early to School, and he having  
been

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been to a good degree qualified with Reading, Writing, Accompts and Grammar in private Schools, he was afterwards sent for his further Improvement in the *Latin* Tongue to *St. Paul's* School, where he continued for about four Years, and was become the second Scholar of the third Form, when his Father took him to Business, and employed him to keep a Warehouse-Book; and in order to qualifie him in the Knowledge of *English* Hides, put him Apprentice to a Leather-Cutter and Shoemaker in *Dukes Place*, from whom he ran away soon after he was bound, and went to Sea, serving about twelve Months on board a First Rate Man of War called *The Old Lion*, Capt. *Barker* Commander; and being discharged thence on account of Sickness, he fell into bad Company, which brought him to vicious Practices. But however, enter'd himself Aboard again in the *Dorsetshire* Man of War, Capt. *Wisher* Commander; where having served about 18 Months, he was discharged upon making of the Peace. He then being out of Employ, returned again to his former Vicious Practices, abandoning himself more than ever to a Life of Looseness and Debauchery, Thieving, &c. But reflecting with himself, took up Resolutions



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to relinquish that Course of Life, and in order thereto enter'd himself on board a Merchant's Ship called *The Prince George and Hannover*, bound for *Guinea*; but the Captain having heard what a lewd and wicked Liver he had been, did not think fit to trust him in the Voyage, and so set him on Shore again after he had been on board about a Week: upon which he, instead of endeavouring to get into some honest Employment, returned to his old way of Thieving.

He was apprehended and indicted the 9th of *July*, 1702. for breaking the Dwelling House of *Francis Calvert*, with intent to steal his Goods. The Evidence deposed, That getting up early in the Morning, and hearing a Noise, she mistrusted there were Thieves, and watching she saw *James Wadsworth* come up the Court upon his Toes, but the Watchman coming he went away; and a while after he return'd, crying out, *Holborn, Holborn, Holborn; Planted, Planted, Planted*: She was positive she saw *Wadsworth* take another Man out of the Window, and she crying out, *Wadsworth* was taken by the Watch. But it appearing to be Day-Light, it was not Burglary according to Law, and he was thereupon acquitted. But being known to be an old Offender,

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Offender, the Court ordered him to give Security for his good Behaviour for 12 Months.

He having got Security fit for his purpose, got his Liberty, and fell immediately to his old Trade again, and in September following was catch'd again, and indicted for breaking the Dwelling-House of *Tho. Feynson*, Esq; on the 23d of *August*, and stealing a Callicoe Quilt, a pair of Blankets, a Stuff Plod, a Looking Glass, and *Bloom's* History of the Bible. It appeared upon his Tryal that he had put up the Sash of the Window about nine a-Clock at Night, and got into a Room, had taken the things in order to carry off; but being surprized, jump'd out of the Window and made off, but was presently apprehended. The Fact being plainly proved upon him, he was found guilty of the Indictment, and received Sentence to die accordingly.

Being under Sentence of Death, and visited by the Ordinary, he shewed himself very desirous both to know and do whatever was possible to be known or done by him, in order to his Salvation; expressed a very deep Sense of his ill-spent Life, was extreamly afflicted that he had led so Vicious an one, was very ready by Confession to unburthen his

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Conscience; acknowledged the Justice of God in bringing him to that shameful end that he had so highly deserved, and with great Resignation of Mind submitted to it; never expressed any Desire of Mind after Life, often saying, as he had justly forfeited it, he was not now unwilling to part with it, provided he could but obtain the Favour of God and Eternal Life, the only thing he sought after. He express'd a great deal of Sense of, and Thankfulness for, the Mercy of God, which had spared him so long, even among so many Dangers which he had been exposed to both at Land and Sea, and which had prevented his being cut off in the midst of his damning Sins, and had given him this Time and Opportunity to repent. He signified he was extremely afflicted that he had all along by his vicious Life, and now by his untimely Death, occasioned unspeakable Grief to his poor disconsolate Mother, whose good Counsels and Admonitions he had so undutifully rejected, wishing that himself might be the last unfortunate Child that might bring such Sorrow upon his Parents. In this penitent Frame he always appeared during the Time he lay under Sentence of Death, desired to participate of the Sacrament, which  
was

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was permitted, and he received with a great deal of Devotion, and remained in the same Frame of Mind to his last Moment. Being carry'd to the Place of Execution, he signified that he had steadfast Hopes of Eternal Life; saying, he was fully persuaded he was going to his Heavenly Father, and in this Persuasion felt great Joy and Comfort in the Approaches of Death; and that he had much rather die than live any longer in this sinful World. He exhorted the Spectators, and especially young Persons, to take warning by his untimely End, and to avoid all manner of Sins, especially Sabbath-breaking, Drunkenness, Gaming, Lewdness, &c. and having had his Cap pull'd over his Face, while he was performing his private Devotions under the Tree, he pulled it up again, and repeated his Exhortations to the Spectators, adding, that he desired that no Reflection or Reproaches might be cast on his Wife, Mother, or other Friends upon his Account; saying, That had he followed their Counsels he should never have come to that untimely End. And in this Penitent and Pious Temper of Mind he was Executed at *Tyburn* the 25th of *September*, 1702. in the 24th Year of his Age.

The



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*The* LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

O F

Thomas Cook,

*The Butcher of Gloucester.*

**T**HOMAS COOK the Prize-Player, commonly known by the Name of *the Butcher of Gloucester*, being at the time of his Execution about Thirty five Years of Age, was born at *Gloucester* of honest Parentage, who sent him up to *London* at the Age of Fifteen, where he was put Apprentice to a Barber-Surgeon, with whom he having served about Two Years ran away, and got into the Service of Esquire *Needham*, Page of Honour to King *William*: But his Mother sending for him down into the Country, telling him a Gentleman's Service was no Inheritance, he went down to *Gloucester* and set up the Trade of a Butcher, which Trade his Forefathers had followed; this Trade he followed for many Years, and served Master of the Company of Butchers in the said City; but being (as he said) too much emboldened  
with

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with Courage, he thought no Man better than himself, and so took up the Sword, and followed the Exercise of Prize-fighting for several Years, and was at last apprehended and indicted for the Murther of *John Cooper*, a Constable, on the 22d of *May*, 1703. by giving him a Mortal Wound with a Rapier in the Left part of the Body near the Left Pap on the 12th of *May*, 1702. of which he languished till the 16th, and then died. The Evidence deposed that a Warrant being issued out by the Justices to the High Constable, for suppressing Vice and Immorality, in pursuance of her Majesty's Proclamation, he accordingly sent his Summons to the other Constables, and they accordingly met, and going to *May-Fair* a Tumult arose, and that the Constables having seiz'd on the Prisoner's Wife (it coming to his Ear, who was then at Home at his own House) he swore G——d D——m him, he would have the Blood of some of them before he came out of the Fair; and thereupon shut up his House, and going into the Fair, he with a Sword drawn in his Hand, and a Mob of about 30 Soldiers, &c. got over a Bank and stood in Defiance of the Constables, Huzzaing and throwing Brickbats at them; but Mr.

*Cooper*

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*Cooper* approaching near them, they leaped over the Bank and pursued the Constables to the Sheep-Pens, and Mr. *Cooper* being hindmost they overtook him, cut him and wounded him so that he died; adding, that the Prisoner had a Sword in his Hand, and afterwards the Constable's Staff: and the Mob overpowering the Constables, they escaped and were not taken; that being informed the Prisoner was the Person who killed him, they went to apprehend him, and three Days after met him in their way to the Fair; and he perceiving them, drew his Sword, made several Passes at them, waved it over his Head, and ran into the Fair, and so made his Escape and got over to *Ireland*; and being in *Dublin* in a Publick-House, and talking with a Man who taught the Small Sword, the Prisoner swore very profanely: Upon which the Master of the House rebuked him, telling him there were some People in the House would take him up for it; to whom he replied, Were there any of the Reforming Dogs in *Ireland*? for, said he, we in *London* drive them; For at a Fair called May-Fair there was a Noise, and I went out to see, and there were six Soldiers and my self, and the Constables plaid their Parts with their Staves, and I made

made mine, and when the Man drop't I wiped my Sword, put it up and went away. Having several times told of this Exploit in a boasting Manner, he was at last apprehended and sent to *Chester*, and from thence removed by a *Habeas Corpus* to *London*, and so to the *Old Baily*. This being the Sum of the Evidence against the Prisoner, he in his Defence pleaded that he was a wounded Man, having plaid a Prize the 29th of *April* before, and was so wounded that it was not likely that he should be concerned in any such Action; and as for the Woman that was taken up for his Wife, he disowned her, saying, she was only his Bar-keeper, and that as soon as she came back he shut up his House and went to another. But the Evidence being positive that he was the Man, the Jury found him guilty of the Murder, and he received Sentence to die accordingly.

During the time of his being under Sentence, being frequently visited by the *Ordinary*, he shew'd great Signs of Remorse of Conscience and Penitence for the Sins of his past Life, owned that in several Employments he had follow'd he had frequently been unjust, had stolen Sheep, been a grievous Sinner, a great Swearer, a Drinker, an Adulterer, a  
profane



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profane and Lewd Wretch, a sworn Enemy to those who were employ'd in the Reformation of Manners, that for several Years past he had made it his business to fight Prizes, an Exercise which the Pride of his Heart carried him to, which he now looked upon as Heathenish and Barbarous, which with all other the wicked Practices of his Life, especially his flight of Religion, he did detest and abhor; and *begged of God not to remember against him the Sins of his Youth, nor his manifold Transgressions; but to forgive him all his Sins, which were indeed many and great.* But as to the Fact that he was to dye for, he positively deny'd it; Saying, he heartily forgave those Persons who had sworn against him, declaring that he was in perfect Peace and Charity with all Mankind. He being in this Disposition of Mind, and desiring to receive the Sacrament, it was administred to him the 2d of July which he received with a great deal of seeming Devotion, and was then with the rest of the Criminals that were to suffer carryed towards Tyburn in order for Execution, but being come as far as *Bloomsbury* there came a Reprieve for him till *Friday* the 23d of the same Month, and he was carried back to *Newgate* accordingly. the Ordinary after his return

return from the Execution of the other Malefactors, went to visit him in the Condemn'd Hold, and found him at Prayers, in which he seemed very earnest and devout, and told him that he was not affected with this temporal Life, and that he would have been well contented to have died with his Fellow condemned Prisoners. But that it happening otherwise, he desired however to have gone through to the Place of Execution, that he might join in Prayer with them, and be himself raised to a higher pitch of Devotion. But the Officers would not permit him. Being come back to *Newgate*, some of his Friends who came thither to congratulate him, would have rejoiced and made merry with him on the account of his being reprieved, but he would not consent to it; desiring Privacy and Retirement from all Persons but such as could further his Devotions, that he might more carefully improve that small addition of Time to a higher degree of Contrition, and Repentance for his Sins. That Reprieve being out on the 23d of *July*, there came another till the 11th of *August*, during which time he spent his time in a constant Practice of Devotion. When on Friday the 6th of *August* an Order came down for his Execution on the 11th

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11th following, which the *Ordinary* signified to him, but did not Perceive him at all moved or troubled at it; But told him, he was very willing to die, since it was the Will of God he should; that he had flung himself wholly upon him, resigned himself to his holy Will, giving him Thanks and Praise for all his Mercies, and in particular that he had afforded him Time to prepare for a happy Eternity, which he said he was fully persuaded he should enjoy when-ever he left this miserable World. He told the *Ordinary* that one thing had troubled him very much, and he had repented of it as much as any one Sin he had ever committed, which was, his having so far gratified some of his Friends, as sometimes (tho' not very frequently) to have given them his Company, by which means he had been once or twice engaged to drink tho' not to excess, yet to such a measure, as through his Fasting and great Weakness had discomposed him, and interrupted him in his Devotions. For which he heartily begg'd Pardon of God, being grieved that he had wasted any of his precious Moments, since his Condemnation.

On the Last *Sunday* before his Execution, at the Conclusion of the Service in the Chapel, he spake to the Congregation,

tion, which was numerous, to this effect;  
*1st*, That upon his Salvation he was innocent of the Fact for which he was to die.  
*2dly*, That he had been engaged in many worldly Sins, for which he begged God's Pardon, and the Prayers of all Good People. *3dly*, That he wished all Young Men would take Warning by him, avoid bad Company, and serve God. and from that time continuing in a constant Frame of Devotion till the day of his Execution, he composed the Verses following in answer to the Bell-man's Night-Verses, which he commonly recites the Night before the Execution.

*Thou art the Bell-man for this Night,  
 who com'st to let me know,  
 That on to Morrow I'm to die;  
 and be a Publick Show.*

Before he was Executed he read to the Spectators, and gave the Ordinary his Dying Speech, with his last Prayer and pious Verses.

### *His Dying Speech.*

GENTLEMEN,

**I** Thought it convenient to give you an Account of my Life and Conversation, which is as follows:

*The*



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*The beginning of which you having had before in his Life, I shall not repeat it, but proceed.*

I follow'd the Sport of Prize-Playing for many Years, which Practice has proved prejudicial to me, and I desire all Men to take warning by me, and never meddle with any such idle Practice, but let their honest Calling be what it will, mind that, serve God, and keep Good Company. For here I shall give you an Account of the ill Consequence of such an idle Practice; (1.) It is displeasing to God to have his Image scarified after such a Manner. (2.) It brings a Man to a Correspondence with Ill Company, and Ill Company takes a Man off from his Duty of serving God, and makes him follow those Vices that I have been guilty of my self; as breaking the Sabbath, Swearing, Cursing, Drunkenness, Lewdness, and other like Debaucheries. But as to what I die for, I do declare before God and all the World I die Innocent. There was one Witness deposed upon Oath, *That he saw me lock up my Doors and go toward the Fair with a Sword in my Hand.* And there was one *Jonathan Sheppard* declared upon Oath, *That he saw me in the middle of the Mob with a naked Sword in my Hand.* And there

there was a Beadle declared also upon Oath, *That he saw me with a Sword in my Hand Bloody.* And there was one Mr. Deering who likewise declared upon Oath, *That I told him in Ireland, that when the Constable dropt I wiped my Sword, put it up and went away.* Which I declare I never said, nor spoke any such Words to him in all my Life. And furthermore I do declare, as I expect Mercy from God, I had no Sword in my Hand in the Fair that Day, and did not so much as lift up my Hand, either for or against any Person when the Constable was killed.

Gentlemen, I must desire you not to reflect upon Mr. Gorman upon my Account, for he is very Innocent of what they have charged him with concerning me. But since it is my Misfortune to die this shameful Death, I must look upon it as an Affliction from God Almighty for my Worldly Sins. As for those False Witnesses that swore my Life away, I do freely forgive them with all my Spirit and I hope God will forgive them also. And as for all whom I ever wronged in my Life, I do hope they will freely forgive me, as I do freely forgive all the World. So Gentlemen, I bid you an Eternal Farewell.

After

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After he had at the Place of Execution repeated the aforesaid Speech to the Spectators, he gave it the *Ordinary* desiring him to Publish it, affirming upon the Words of a dying Man, and upon his hopes of Salvation, that what he had said and they contained were nothing but the Truth. And the *Ordinary* asking him, whether he was fully persuaded that his Repentance was sincere, that his Sins were forgiven him, and that he was now presently to enter into Eternal Life; he answered, that he was fully persuaded of all this, and was very easie in his Spirit, and that he never felt so much Joy in all his Life as he had done since he came into the Cart. And giving the *Ordinary* Thanks for his good Offices, was turned off calling upon the Name of the Lord. And the *Ordinary* on the 13th of *August* 1703, Preach'd a Funeral Sermon on him at the Parish Church of *St. James's Clerkenwell*. Which was also Printed for *Elizabeth Mallet*,

But notwithstanding this, *Arthur Chambers*, who was try'd for the Murther of *Mr. Cooper* the Constable, when he and *Richard Morris* were at the Place of Execution, and also *Richard Morris*, declared to the *Ordinary* that the Informations they had delivered to *Mr. Billers* were true,

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## John Peter Dramatti. 241

true, and *Chambers* said particularly, he had in his done no Injury either to the Living or the Dead, in that Information that related to the Riot in *May-fair*, when Mr. *Cooper* the Constable was murdered, in which he declared, that *Thomas Cook*, who suffered for it with such an Air of seeming Repentance, and to his last Breath deny'd it, was concerned in it.



## The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

O F

## John Peter Dramatti.

**J**OHAN PETER DRAMATTI, of about 30 Years of Age, born of Honest and religious Parents, and brought up in the Protestant Religion in the County of *Foix* in the Province of *Languedoc* in *France*, having left his own Country upon the account of the Persecution there, went to *Geneva*, and from thence to *Germany*, and served some time in the Horse-Grenadiers of the Elector of *Brandenburg*, afterwards King of *Prussia*; and leaving that Service he came about the Year 1695

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to *England*, and was admitted into the Service of the Right Honourable the late Lord *Haversham*, where he staid a Twelve Month, and quitted it to go a Soldier under the command of Capt. *de la Cour* in Colonel *de la Melonier's* Regiment; and having made two Campaigns in *Flanders*, the Regiment was ordered to *Ireland*, where it being broke he was discharged, and being at a place called *Tawl* he came acquainted with an Ancient Widow named *Frances Morris*, who gave it out that she was a great Fortune and of noble Extraction, saying she was of the Blood Royal of *France*, upon which Expectation he marry'd her, and soon after he was married found he had been trick'd, she being so far from being a wealthy Woman, that he had nothing to subsist upon; That then he took a small House and piece of Ground about 10 Miles from *Cork*, and turned Farmer, but not understanding Husbandry he made nothing of it, so quitted that Employment and went to *Cork*, and being a Skinner by Trade work'd at it, but that turning but to Small Account he came over again to *England*, apply'd himself again to the Lord *Haversham*, who entertain'd him till the time that he was apprehended for the Murther of *Frances* his Wife the 9th of *June* 1703. For which he

## John Peter Dramatti. 243

he was try'd at the Sessions House in the *Old Baily*. It appeared by the Evidence produced in Court, that the Prisoner was at the time of the Commitment of the Fact Servant to the Lord *Haversham*, who lived then at *Kensington*, and coming home bloody that night the Murther was committed, was examined by his Lordship and the Family how he came to be in that Condition, to whom he made answer that coming over the Park he met 2 Men who set upon him, and would have robbed him of his Clothes, which obliged him to fight to defend himself, saying he had broken one of their Heads. This Answer satisfied them for that Night. But the next Day the Servants hearing a Paper cry'd about giving an account of a barbarous Murder committed near *Bloody-bridge* by *Chelsea*, they acquainted their Lord with it, telling him, they suspected *Dramatti* had killed his Wife, he having come home the Night before bloody, his Sword broke, the Hilt bruised, and his Cane shatter'd, especially remembering that when she was at the House they heard her complain of bad usage; upon this his Lord in order to employ him, and that he might not mistrust any thing, Ordered him to get his Coach ready, and in the mean time sent for a Con-

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stable to apprehend him. The Constable having apprehended him, Search'd him and found his Wives Coif in his Coat-Pocket, and coming to *London* in order to go before a Justice, in the Coach by the Way he acknowledged the Fact to the Constable, and being ask'd for what Reason he had killed her, He answered, because she was a wicked Woman and had cheated him, in that she told him when he married her she was of the Blood Royal of *France*, and would maintain him without working; but instead of that he was forced to work to maintain her. As to the manner of the Murther it was as follows. The deceased was found Murdered in a Ditch between *Hyde-park* and *Chelsea*, lying upon her Belly, and there was a Track of Blood for about 20 Yards from a place where a piece of a Sword (which fitted with the other part the Prisoner had) was found sticking in the Bank, she having 21 wounds in her Head and Neck, one of which went into her Wind-Pipe, and another behind the Ear, which went into her Mouth, besides a great many more in other parts of her Body. It was also deposed that late the Night after the Murther was committed he went into his Lord's Lodging when he was in Bed, which they supposed was to rob

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## John Peter Dramatti. 245

rob him of Gold which was there, and afterwards make his escape, and that his Lord being awake asking who it was and what was his Business, he pretended to come there for something he wanted. When *Dramatti* on his Tryal came to make his Defence, all he had to say for himself was, that she followed him and provoked him to it. Whereupon the Jury found him guilty of Wilful Murder: And he received Sentence to dye accordingly. After which being visited by the *Ordinary of Newgate* and other Persons, he seemed very stupid, the Devil who had prompted him to the Sin, endeavouring to hinder him from repenting of it; and though he did not deny the Fact, yet obstinately persisted in his own Justification, saying, that he was highly provoked by her, that she was a very ill Woman and of a restless Spirit. And being desired to give an account of the occasion and manner of the commission of the Fact, gave the Account following, *viz.* That his Wife being very uneasy to live from him, would have had him taken her home with him to his Lord's House, which he refused, saying his Lordship knew nothing of her being his Wife. Then she urged him to leave his Service and come and live with her; which he told her he



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would not do, having a very good Lord, whom he loved, and out of whose Service he knew not how to subſiſt. That then ſhe grew more uneaſie; and gave Intimations of her being Jealous of him, that he loved ſome other Perſon more than her ſelf, in that he came ſo ſeldom to ſee her; though he ſaid he did viſit her as frequently as his Attendance on his Maſter would permit; and that at laſt ſhe grew to that height that it grew inſupportable to them both, and was further heightned by an Accident, which was this, about *Chriſtmas*, he falling ſick of a Fever, he was by his Lord's Order carefully looked after in the Family, and provided with Phyſick, Attendance, and all other Neceſſaries, and one of the Servant-Maids coming to bring him ſome Water-gruel, his Wife came into the Chamber in the interim, ſhe preſently fancied ſhe was the Perſon he had fixed his Love upon; and ſo ſlighted her, and mightily importuned him to leave his Lordſhip's Houſe and live with her. To which he answered, he ſhould be a Mad-Man indeed to leave ſo Good a Maſter, where he had ſuch good Proviſion and kind Uſage to go home and ſtarve with her. But ſhe continued ſtill to importune him. He added likewise, that when he

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## John Peter Dramatti. 247

was recovered of his Sickness, he visited her as often as his Conveniency would permit; but could neither be so frequent, nor stay so long, as she desired; and so she was as dissatisfied as she was before. And his Lord having taken Lodgings at *Kensington*, in the Hurry of Removal he had not Opportunity to go to acquaint her with it, and she happening to hear of it, was in a great Passion, and came to *Kensington* to reproach him with Unkindness. Tho' he said he had given her 3 Guineas not long before her Death. But this did not satisfy her, she wanted him to leave his Lordship's Service and live with her. After many Debates about this matter, it happened, that, his Lord having sent him to Town upon some Errands, he called upon his Wife, who lived in *Soho*, and when he was about to go away she took hold of him and would not let him go; but he getting away went towards *Charing-Cross*, whither she follow'd him, and he telling her he was to go to his Lord to *Spring Garden*, persuaded her to go home, which she seemed content to do, but instead of that went to *Hyde-park-gate*, and waiting till he came, stopt him and would let him go no further unless he took her along with him. But he refus-

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ing for the reasons before mentioned, saying it might cause his Lordship to turn him away, perswaded her for God-sake to go home. But she would not, saying, *she would go in spite of his teeth, or she would have his life or he should have hers.* That then seeing her Resolution, he told her if she would needs go to *Kensington* that was the way, pointing to it, but he took another way towards *Knights-Bridge*, and then turned towards *Chelsea*, but she followed him, and being near *Bloody-bridge*, through the long and sharp Contentions, and the many angry and reproachful Words that had past between them, their Passions were on both sides so heightened, that they fell together by the Ears, in good earnest; and he said that the deceased first took him by the Neckloth and would have strangled him; whereupon he beat her unmercifully both with his Cane and Sword, which he supposed she broke with her Hands, she being a lusty Woman, and one that would have mastered him, had he been unarmed as she was. That having given her a great many Wounds he left her in a Ditch, (as he thought) half dead; and after he had committed this Barbarity, considering with himself, that he had done an Action of  
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## John Peter Dramatti. 249

the most Heinous Nature, before he was gone far from the place, he fell down on his Knees and begg'd God's Pardon for it, and then made the best of his way to *Kensington*, and gave the account of his being bloody &c. as you have had before. Having made this Confession to the *Ordinary*, he laboured to make him sensible of the Heinousness of the Crime, and that none of the Provocations, he said he had received from the deceased, would Justifie so great an Impiety; and at length was made so sensible of it, that he own'd had greatly offended God, and heartily beg'd pardon of him; praying that the Blood of *Christ* might wash away that Stain from his Soul, which the Blood he had spilt, had stained it with, and that this Washing and Pardon might be extended also, to all other his Sins, which were great and many; and acknowledged with great Confusion of Face and Contrition of Heart, that forasmuch as he had been induced by Satan to the commission of this enormous Crime, he was the greatest of Sinners, and should have been undone for ever, had not the Grace of God intervened.

But he added, though he was willing to charge himself with the Sins he was guilty of, yet he could not take upon

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him the Guilt of that of which he was innocent, and unjustly accused. And that was what was intimated against him as having a Design to rob his Lord, and to make his Escape the Night after he had committed the Fact; saying, that the Reason of his going into his Lord's Chamber after he had put him to Bed, was not on any such Design, but only to take out a Silver Tumbler, which he had forgotten, that he might have it ready the next Morning to take Asses Milk in it for his Lord. Adding, he had no Design either that Night or the next Day to make his Escape, though he expected every Moment to be seized; entertaining this Thought, That there was no running away from Justice, knowing that Divine Vengeance would one time or other overtake him, whithersoever he went. Adding, That although a little before his Tryal he did attempt his Escape out of *Newgate*, being disguised in Woman's Apparel, it was neither his Desire at first, nor his own Invention; but what he was persuaded to by one Mr. *Toward*, then a Prisoner with him, who first put him upon it, and then discovered and betray'd him, when he was ready to put the Enterprize in Execution. He begged Pardon of the Queen, whose

## John Peter Dramatti. 251

whose Land he had defiled with Blood ; and of the Church of God, to whom he, had given so great a Scandal ; of his Lord, to whom he had proved so unhappy a Servant ; and of the whole World, before whom he had set such an Instance of Sin. And said, he hoped that all Men, instead of imitating him in this his Crime would abhor and detest it ; and take such warning by his Fall, as carefully to avoid both his Sin and his Punishment. This Confession he desired the *Ordinary* to impart to the World, and repeated it himself at the place of Execution, and after the *Ordinary* and Monsieur *Le Blaine*, a worthy *French* Divine, had performed the last Offices at the place of Execution, and besides the Office in *English* had sung a Psalm with him in *French*, he being left to his private Devotion, cry'd mightily to God to blot out all his Iniquities, and especially that of Blood-Guiltiness ; and the Cart drawing away, concluded his Prayers and Life with most Pious Ejaculations.

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O F

*William Barrow.*

**W**ILLIAM BARROW, about 27 Years of Age, born in the Parish of *St. Andrews Holborn*, who had been in his Youth bound an Apprentice to an Upholder, but ran away from his Master and listed himself a Trooper, and was a Corporal under Collonel *Hubbard* in the 2d Regiment of Guards at the time of his Commitment for this Fact, was indicted at the Sessions House in the *Old Bailey* for the Murther of *Thomas Treves*, a Watchman belonging to the Parish of *St. Buttolphs Aldgate*, the 11th of *February* 1703. by giving him one Mortal Wound with a Sword on the Left part of his Body near the Left Pap, of which he instantly died. The Evidence deposed, that the Constable and Watchman going their Rounds in *Rosemary-lane*, found the Prisoner in an Alley with a Woman whom they suspected to be a Loose Person, and therefore intending to carry them both to the Watch-House, took away the Prisoner's

## William Barrow. 253

Prisoner's Sword and gave it to the Deceased, who putting it under his Arm went with the Prisoner ; But the Woman not going so fast as the rest, the Deceased and *Barrow* were at some small distance before ; that the Prisoner catching his Sword from the Deceased, with it gave him the aforesaid Wound, upon which he crying out *I am stuck*, the Constable came up to him, and the Prisoner made a Pass at him also : and missing him stuck the Sword against some Pales, and they believed broke it, for it was found broken, and that the Sword grazing upon his Sleeve left some Blood upon it, upon which the Constable immediately knocked down *Barrow* and secured him. *Barrow* on his Tryal deny'd the Fact, and said, that he was a Soldier at the *Tower-Guard*, and his Serjeant had given him leave to go and see his Wife, and that coming along *Rosemary-lane*, he had occasion to untruss a point, and the Constable coming to him lay'd hold of him, and would carry him to the Watch-house, that he made no Resistance but gave him his Sword voluntarily, when he demanded it ; that he did not afterwards snatch the Sword from the Deceased, but took it off the Ground, where it had been dropped, the Watchmen, &c. having e-  
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fed him very rudely, giving him several Blows and Punches with their Staves. He said his Sword was broke before they met him, and called some Witnesſes to prove it was ſo, producing a piece of a Sword, which he ſaid was the piece that was broken off; but the piece did not match with the Sword. But notwithstanding all this, the Jury found him guilty of the Murther. After he had received Sentence, and being viſited by the *Ordinary*, he confeſſed that he had been a very Loofe Liver, and addicted to the enormous Vices of profaning the Lord's Name and Day, of Intemperance and Lewdneſs, &c. and by the Enticement of bad Company turned Thief, and had ſuffered the Law for a Felony proved upon him. After that he went and ſerved in the Army in *Flanders*, and after that, here at home. He acknowledged the Juſtice of God in this his Punishment, becauſe he had long before deſerved it for other Sins, which he ſaid he pray'd and hoped might be forgiven him for Chriſt's ſake. But would by no means, even to the very laſt, confeſs the Murther for which he was condemned to die. But at the Place of Execution deſired all Standers by to take warning by his Crimes and Punishment, and avoid Lewdneſs, Profaneneſs; Debauchery,

## Thomas Sharp. 255

Debauchery, and all manner of Sins. He was Executed at *Tyburn* the latter End of *February*. 1703.



### The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

O F

### Thomas Sharp.

**T**HOMAS SHARP, of about 29 Years of Age, born in the West of *England*, by Trade a Glover, which he left to go into the Service of the Crown, and had served both at Sea and Land; and was at the Time of the committing the Fact for which he suffered, in the Regiment under the Command of Collonel *Hamilton*, in the Company of Capt. *Welsh*.

He was indicted for the Murther of *Thomas Tomkins*, a Watchman, by wounding him with a Pistol loaden with two Slags, in the Left part of his Breast, on the 10th of *August*, 1704, of which he languished till the 20th, and then died. The Constable deposed, that coming by where the Deceased was shot, he asked him

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him what was the matter with him; whereupon he reply'd, that three Men being breaking open a Shoemaker's Shop near *Queen-street* end, and he going to prevent it, one of them (in a Red Coat) shot him. Several Evidences deposed, That near *Leicester-Fields* they met the Prisoner and the two other of his Accomplices, and went with them to drink at the *Rose and Crown* in *Castle-Alley*, and that the Prisoner had then a Red Coat on; that they sat drinking there till one or two in the Morning, and he laying down a Pistol, bid one of the Evidence not touch it, for it was Loaded; that they then paid their Reckoning and went away, saying that they would go and get some Money; and that some time after the Prisoner came back all in a Sweat, and looked Pale; and being ask'd what was the matter, he answer'd, *They were Milling a Ken*, (i. e. Breaking open a House) and had like to have been Boned, (i. e. taken;) saying, that he went back, and popt a pair of Slugs into the Watchman, who prevented them. They then ask'd him, if he had killed him; he said, he could not tell, but he saw him fall. And being ask'd what were become of the other two, he said, he thought they were Boned. That then he gave the Pistol into the Hands

Hands of the Landlady of the House, which was then warm, bidding her not be afraid, for it was discharged; and staying there plaid at Cards till it was Day, and then went away. The Prisoner upon his Tryal deny'd the Fact, or having had a Red Coat on that Day; and affirmed that he was at Home in *Southwark* from 11. of the Clock that Night till the next Morning. But the Evidences swearing positively against him, the Jury found him guilty of the Murther, and he received Sentence accordingly.

After which he seemed to behave himself with a great deal of Penitence and Devotion; confessing he had been a very Debauched and Profligate Person, and had before received Sentence of Death at the *Old Baily*, the 27th of *February*, 1701. for breaking the House of Mrs. *Mary Browne* in *St. Giles in the Fields*; saying, he was very sorry he had no better improved the Mercy shown him. But could not be brought to own the Fact he was to die for, till the Dead Warrant was come for his Execution; when he did; and expressing a great deal of sorrow for it, was executed at the end of *Long Acre* in *Drury-lane* the 22d Day of *September*, 1704.

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*The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.*

O F

*Mary Raby.*

**M**ARY RABY, alias *Rogers*, alias *Jackson*, alias *Brown*, was born in the Parish of *St. Giles in the Fields*, and at first well educated and instructed in the Knowledge of Good Things; but giving her self over to Vicious Practices, came to be a second *German Princess*.

She began her Vicious Course of Life with Bilking her Lodgings, at which she was very dextrous. Having by the Assistance of the Tally-man put her self into an Equipage fit for her Design, she began her first Exploit at a House in *Great Russel-street* near *Bloomsbury-square*, where pretending to be a great Fortune, who was obliged to leave her Residence in the Country, by reason of the troublesome Importunity of a great many Suitors, she so imposed upon the Credulity of the Family, that they entertained her and treated her with a great deal of Civility; and having been there about a Fortnight, it happened that the whole Family, except

cept the Maid, went to *Richmond*; she thought that a fair Opportunity to put her Design in Execution, and having gotten a Bill drawn upon a Banker in *Lombard-street* for 150 *l.* desired the Maid to call a Porter; which she did, and gave him the Bill to go and receive the Money, ordering him to bring it all in Gold; but recollecting her self (as she feigned) that such a Sum of Money might probably be a Temptation to the Porter, she desired the Maid to go along with him, and she would take care of the House in her absence. The Maid, not suspecting Madam, went along with the Porter to the Goldsmith in *Lombard-street*, where offering the Bill, they were stopt for a couple of Cheats; but they insisting upon their Innocency, and telling from whence they came, the Banker sent a Messenger along with them; and when they came to the House they found that the poor Maid had had a Trick put upon her, *Moll Raby* being gone off the Premises, and carry'd with her 80 *l.* in Money, and 150 *l.* in Plate and other Things of Value. This Practice she carried on for a considerable time, till she had been thrice burnt in the Hand for acting Quality in Disguise; and having plaid these Pranks till she was grown so

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notorious that it was difficult for her to play any more of them, she at last married to one *Humphry Jackson*, by Trade a Butcher, but did not follow it, but he went upon the *Sweetening Lay* (as they call it) Luck in a Bag in the Day time; and to make up the Day's Work, both he and she went upon the *Buttock and Twang* by Night; that is, she picks up a *Cull*, and decoys him into some Alley or Dark Place, pretending she is not willing to expose her Face; and while the Cully is busy about the Plaquet, she dives into his Fob and Pocket, and having eased him of Watch, Money, &c. a Hem, or some such Signal gives Notice to the Bully, who follows at a small distance, and lurks while he has that Notice that the Prize is obtain'd, and only waits for his Assistance to carry it off; who steps up in an Instant, e're the Gallant can put himself in a Posture fit to receive him, and either knocks him down e're he's aware, or bullies him for being so familiar with his Wife; while she carries off the Prize.

Having carried this Trade on for some time, her Husband died, and then she took to another Branch of the Mystery of Iniquity, and that was to go upon the *Night-Sneak*; and in her first Attempt

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came but scurvily off, and was in imminent Danger of being worse handled; for going along *Downing-street* at *Westminster*, she seeing a Door half open and no body in the way, sneaks softly up Stairs, and getting into a large Bed-chamber, hides her self under the Bed, where when she had been about an Hour, a couple of Footmen came in with Candles, fell to lighting a Fire, while the Maid was very busy in laying the Cloth for Supper; which being done, and the Table furnish'd with several Dishes of Meat, about 6 Persons sat down to Supper. This put *Moll* into a Pannick Fear, and set her into such a fit of Trembling, that they must needs have taken notice of it, had not the Noise of their Tongues and some Childrens Playing, highly favour'd her. But an unlucky Accident had like to have marr'd her Security: For there being in the Room a Dog and Cat attending the Table, a Boy flung down a Bone, which Puss, being nimble, first seized on, running under the Bed with it, and the Dog pursued her to take it from her; upon which a sharp Encounter happened betwixt them, and *Moll* got several Scratches, and they obstinately persisting, Puss in defending the Bone and the Dog in taking it; the Cat swearing and the Dog barking, made  
such



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such a Disturbance, that one of the Footmen to allay the hurly burly catches up the Fireshovel and flings it with great Fury under the Bed; which hit *Moll* such a violent Blow on the Nose and Forehead that stunned her for some time. The Cat she made off in the utmost hurry, but the Dog staid behind, barking and snarling at *Moll* that lay there *incognito*; but one of the Servants flinging the Fire Fork at him, remov'd his Quarters, but hit *Moll* another unlucky Blow upon her Chops. The Dog was now from under the Bed indeed, but still kept growling; which Made *Moll* apprehensive of being betrayed. But the Dog being troublesome was put out of the Room, and they withdrew themselves soon after. *Moll* taking the first Opportunity to quit her troublesome Quarters, crept out, bundles the Sheets up in the Quilt, sneak'd down Stairs unobserved, and carry'd off her Booty.

She was indicted the 20th of *April* 1699. for stealing 23 Yards of Muslin, the Goods of *George Abbot*, the 19th of *February* foregoing. The Evidence deposed that she and one *Prudence Brooks*, who had been convicted the Sessions before, came to his Shop to buy Linnen, and while he was busy stole the Muslin, and

and having put them up Stairs, a little after comes one *Edward Brown* (who was sent by a Scout who watch'd the Transaction) and said he must see his Sister; and being got up Stairs, some more of the Gang immediately came, who drew their Swords, and had like to have killed Mr. *Abbot's* Servant, and got away the Prisoners. But she was afterwards apprehended and try'd, and being known to be an old Offender, and had before been burnt in the Hand, was found guilty and burnt over again.

Another time, as she was drinking with one of her Companions at an Ale-house in *Wapping*, where there was no Company but themselves and the Maid and Mistress, who being asleep by the Fire-side, *Moll* took Notice she had on a good Pearl Necklace, which she having a Month's Mind to, sends the Maid down into the Cellar to fill the Pot again, and mean while with a pair of Scissars cuts off the Necklace and swallows the Beads; the Mistress awaking before they had dispatch'd their Business, and missing her Necklace, makes a great Outcry, and charges *Moll* and her Consort with it: But they stood stiffly in Vindication of their Innocency; and offering themselves to be search'd, were stripp'd; but nothing

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thing being found upon them, the Mistress insisted no longer on her Accusation, but sat down with the Loss of her Necklace, and they march'd off with it.

At last, having play'd many Pranks, committed many Cheats and Robberies, she was indicted the 3d of *March* 1702-3. for breaking the House of the Lady *Cavendish* in *Soho-Square* in the Night-time, and stealing a Wooden Box in which was a Gold Box and 38 ; Broad Pieces, a Silver Purse, 6 Guineas, a Picture set with Diamonds, 2 Diamond Rings, a Diamond Buckle, 3 Broad Pieces, 6 Silver Spoons, and divers other Goods to a considerable Value. The Evidence, who was the Lady's Gentlewoman, deposed, That the Lady coming to Town brought the said Box with her; that she took it out of the Coach. *Arthur Chambers* and *Joseph Hatfield* deposed, That the Prisoner going along with them to set a Robbery in *Soho*, as they passed along they seeing a Light in the Prosecutor's Window, one of them put up the Sash and went in, and handed out the Box to the other, who gave it to *Moll Raby*, who put it into her Apron and carried it to her House in *Spring-Garden*; and they going along with her, sent her out, and in the mean time

time broke open the Box and took out the Money, unknown to her, and then they pretending to want Money, *Moll* went out and pawned a Silver Box for 20 s. which was shared amongst them. Two Days after, they going into the City to hear if there was any Noise of the Robbery, found that there was a Reward offered for the Discovery of it; therefore going back to tell *Moll* of it, she had before they came carried away the rest of the things. Upon their Evidence, she being known to the Court to be a Notorious and Old Offender, the Jury found her Guilty of the Indictment; and she received Sentence to die accordingly. But *Arthur Chambers* saving his Life for that time escaped the Gallows, till December 13. 1706. and then ended his Life and Villanies in the same Place and same Manner as she had done before him.

After she had received Sentence, she being visited by the Ordinary, confessed that she had been a very great Sinner, was then 30 Years of Age, had given her self up to all manner of Vice and Wickedness, as Whoredom, Adultery, and unjust Dealings, Sabbath-breaking, Swearing, Drinking, Lewdness, Buying, Receiving and Disposing of Stollen Goods, harbouring ill Persons, &c. But as to the



## 266 *The Tryal, &c. of*

Fact she was to die for, she would only own that some part of the Goods were brought to her House; but she did not understand till the next Day after the Robbery was committed, whose Goods they were. She likewise acknowledged, that as she had been so notorious an ill Liver, God had justly brought her to this shameful End; and earnestly begg'd that God would forgive all her Sins, for Christ's sake, saying that she had now taken up a Resolution (by the Grace of God) never to commit any such things again, were she to live longer in this World. She added, that she had a Husband (she thought) in *Ireland*, if still alive, but was not certain, it being 6 Years since he left her; whom she desired, if alive to forgive her, saying, she was sorry she had defiled his Bed. She begg'd pardon of all the World in general, and pray'd that all wicked Persons, especially those she had been concerned with, would take warning by her, and might have the Grace to amend their Lives betimes, that they might not be overtaken in their Sins. She was hang'd at *Tyburn* in Company with *Elizabeth Wetherby*, *Mary Bunch*, and *Eliz. Stanton*, Nov. 3. 1723.

*The*

Silvester Harlackenden. 267

The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

O F

*Silvester Harlackenden.*

**S**ILVESTER HARLACKENDEN, Esq;  
Born in the County of *Kent*, about  
27 Years of Age, one of the Honourable  
Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, was in-  
dicted for the Murther of one *Robert Win-*  
*coll*, by giving him one Mortal Wound  
with a Sword on the Left part of the  
Body, under the Left Pap, of which he  
died the 31<sup>st</sup> of *March* 1704.

By the Evidence produced in Court it  
appeared that the Prisoner with two Wo-  
men came to the *Roe-Buck* in *Suffolk-street*  
between 10 and 11 a Clock at Night,  
and staying till Morning took a Coach  
which was at the Door, which drove  
them to *Holly-street*, where the Women  
were set down; and that at the Corner  
of *Clare-Market* there were some high  
Words heard to pass between the Pri-  
soner and the Deceased, who was the  
Coachman; and the Prisoner was heard  
to say, *G——d D——n you, are not*  
*you a Rogue to impose upon any Gentleman?*

N 2

and

and immediately the Deceased fell, and was taken up from under the Coach with the aforesaid Wound, whereof he died, and the Prisoner walked away. The Occasion of which the Deceased said, was, that he giving him but a Shilling, when he ought to have Half a Crown, he was urgent upon him for more Money. The Prisoner pleaded in his Defence, that the Deceased struck him several Blows with the Stock of his Whip, gave him scurrilous Language, struck off his Hat into the Keenel; adding, that himself never absconded, but went publicly about his Business till he was apprehended; called divers to his Reputation, who gave him the Character of a Quiet-temper'd Man, never given to quarrel. But these Allegations were not of so much Force with the Jury, but that they found him Guilty of three Indictments, *viz.* on the Coroner's Inquest, on the Statute of Stabbing, and of Wilful Murther; for which he received Sentence of Death. After which he was frequently visited by the Ordinary of Newgate, who urgently put him upon the Consideration of the Heinousness of his Crime, and to make a due Preparation for his Eternal State; to whom he indeed carried himself very Civilly and Gentleman-like, and was ve-

## Silvester Harlackenden. 269

ry patient in hearing his Admonitions ; but was very hard to be induced to go to the Chapel to hear the Word of God and pray in Publick : Tho' yet he desired the *Ordinary* to let him see him in Private as often as he could, but seemed to take no Impression of his Evil upon his Mind from any thing that either he or another Worthy Divine said to him. But was so far from repenting of what he had done, and stood so stiffly to his own Justification, as not so much as to own it was a base and wicked thing for him to have killed a Man : And when the *Ordinary* laid before him the Considerations of a Future and Eternal State, the Misery of Hell on the one Hand, and the Happiness and Glory of Heaven on the other, endeavouring to shew him by Scripture and Reason the Certainty of them, and how to avoid the Former and obtain the Latter, he artfully endeavour'd to elude and divert the Discourse of those Matters by asking several Sceptical Questions concerning the Existence of the Soul, viz. *What it was ? Where it was seated ? Whether it grew up and decay'd with the Body, &c.* thereby discovering his Atheistical Principles ; which the *Ordinary* having answered, told him, it would be much happier for him to employ his



270 *The Tryal, &c. of*

Thoughts in what had a special relation to the quieting his Mind and procuring his Pardon with God. He reply'd, he was mighty quiet and easy in himself, and felt no manner of Trouble, which to him was a sure Sign of his being in a good State. Nor could he be brought to declare plainly what was his Belief as to God and another World, or whether he did believe in Christ, or repented of any Sin he had committed; but said, his Thoughts were best known to himself, and he was very easy in them. Thus he remained to the very last, and seemed to go out of the World in a stupid Insensibility, little or not at all regarding even the last Devotions perform'd at the Place of Execution; only his Lips were observed to move just before the Cart drew away, but none could hear any thing he said, or knew whether he spake or no; and was observed to be longer in dying than any the *Ordinary* had ever seen before.

*The*

Gerard Fitzgerald. 271

The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

O F

Gerard Fitzgerald.

GERARD FITZGERALD, Aged 32 Years, born of Honest Parents near *Limerick* in *Ireland*, educated in the Protestant Religion, was in the Year 1688. sent over to *England* at about 17 Years of Age, and living with a Relation in *Leicester-Fields* three or four Years, learnt the Art of Perriwig-making, and falling into bad Company, gave himself a loose in all manner of Debauchery; but in about three quarters of a Year reflecting in himself on his Mis-carriages, took up a Resolution to reform, and went and work'd Journeywork for about three Years, and afterwards lived with Sir *Henry Johnson* as his Gentleman, and afterwards went Steward of the *Windsor* with Capt. *Warren*, and married his Sister-in-Law, and in the Year 1699. was preferred to be Purser of the Ship *Harcourt*, which was cast away at *Emoy* in *China* in the Year 1700. then coming Home in the *Tavistock* as a Passenger, he

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having

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having passed his Accounts, got a Warrant for the Ship *Burlington*, under the Command of Capt. *Jasper Hicks*.

He was indicted at the Sessions House in the *Old Bailey* for the Murder of Mr. *Joshua Pitt*, Gent. the 30th of *October* 1703. The chief Evidence against the Prisoner was one Mr. *Golding*, who deposed, that he and the Prisoner going to take a Glass of Wine at the *Rummer-Tavern* in *Tower-street*, unfortunately met Mr. *Pitt*, who told Mr. *Golding*, if they would go to the *Dolphin-Tavern* he would come and take a Glass with them, which accordingly they did, and Mr. *Pitt* tarrying longer than ordinary, they sent a Porter for him, and he being come, fell into Discourse of what he had been shooting that Day, and whether Mr. *Pitt* expressed himself as a Sports-man or no, he did not mind; but the Prisoner told Mr. *Pitt* he did not speak Sense; to which Mr. *Pitt* made answer, he thought he did. And that soon after Mr. *Fitzgerald* said to Mr. *Pitt*, *Will you fight me?* Who answered him *No*; saying, I have no Sword; but if he would have him fight him he would meet him any where on the Morrow; then Mr. *Fitzgerald* said he should have Mr. *Golding's* Sword; but Mr. *Pitt* refused, saying he came to be  
Merry,

## Gerard Fitzgerald. 273

Merry, and not to Fight. And that he, the said Mr. *Golding*, desired the Prisoner to forbear, telling him Mr. *Pitt* was his Friend; and called the Drawer for the Reckoning; who coming up, saw Mr. *Fitzgerald's* Sword drawn, but hearing no Words went down again. That then he went to Mr. *Fitzgerald*, and laying his Hand upon his Shoulder, persuaded him to be quiet; but Mr. *Pitt* standing behind him, Mr. *Fitzgerald* thrust his Sword under his (Mr. *Golding's*) Arm, and gave the Wound on the Left part of the Belly near the Navel, of which he instantly died; upon which Mr. *Fitzgerald* was for making his Escape, but he laying hold of him, they struggling, he had the Fortune to throw him, and kept him down till the Drawer came to his Assistance, and then they secured him. Mr. *Fitzgerald* in his Defence pleaded, that Mr. *Pitt* being Mr. *Golding's* Friend, he prosecuted him out of Malice, and that *Golding* was much in Drink and could not well remember what was done, alledging, that Mr. *Pitt* struck him several times, and threw a Glass of Wine in his Face, and that while they struggled together his feet tripped, and so Mr. *Pitt* came by the Wound; adding he had no Malice against Mr. *Pitt* having never seen



## 274 *The Tryal, &c. of*

him in his Life. But this being contradicted by the Evidence, the Jury found him guilty of the Murther, and he received Sentence of Death accordingly. After which being visited by the *Ordinary*, he confessed the Crime for which he was condemned, behaved himself as a Person truly penitent, saying it was a happy thing that he ever came to *Newgate*, for by that means he was now brought to a true Sense of his Sins, and of God's Loving-kindness and Mercy to Penitent Sinners; which perhaps he might otherwise never have been made sensible of, and therefore blessed God with all his Heart, that he had pleased by this Temporal Judgment, to retrieve his Soul (as he hoped) from Eternal Damnation. He was Executed at *Tyburn* the 22d of *December*, 1703.



## *The TRYAL, &c.*

O F

## *Alice Gray, for a Rape.*

**A**LICE GRAY, of the Parish of St. Giles in the Fields, was indicted at the *Old Baily* the 25th of *April* 1707. for Aiding

Aiding and Assisting *John* alias *Thomas Smith*, in the Committing a Rape on the Body of *Catharine Masters*, of the Age of 10 Years. The Girl deposed, that *Alice Gray* and she lodged together, and that the Night the Fact was committed she went to Bed at about 8 a Clock, and about 11 a Clock the Prisoner came home, and a Man with her; that being sleepy, she did not perceive when *Alice Gray* came to Bed; but awaking about 2 a Clock in the Morning she found a Man in Bed with them: that then she endeavoured to get away, but *Alice Gray* pulled her back, and held her down in the Bed, and stopt her Mouth that she could not cry out, while the Man gained the perfect Knowledge of her Body. Other Ev dences deposed, that the Girl the next Morning acquainted them how she had been abused, and inspecting her Body, found that a Man had been with her, and had given her the Pox. The Fact being plainly proved, the Jury found her guilty, and she received Sentence of Death. Being under Condemnation she gave the following Account of her self, That she was 32 Years of Age, born at *Andover* in *Hampshire*, that she had all along worked very hard for her Livelyhood, that she had lived several Years both

## 276 *The Tryal, &c. of*

both a Wife and a Widow in the Parish of *St. Clement Danes*; and used to get her Living by making up Soldiers Clothes, and going to Washing and Scouring, and Nursing Sick People. She deny'd the Fact, and said she never was guilty of any thing like it; and not without much Urgency was at last brought to own thus much, that there was a Man in the Room that Night when the Fact was said to have been committed, that he lay a cross the Feet of the Bed, but never offered to force or lye with the Girl; and that the Man was a Stranger to her, and she knew not what became of him afterwards. She was Executed at *Tyburn* the 2d of *May* 1707. in company with *Thomas Dickson* for Breaking the House of *Joseph Jury*, Esq; and *John Goodwin* alias *Plump*, for Breaking the House of *Alexander Hurrick*.

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## *The* LIFE, TRYAL, &c. O F *Henry Simpkins.*

**H**ENRY SIMPKINS, of the Parish of *St. Giles in the Fields* a married man and by Trade a Joyner, was indicted

## Henry Simpkins. 277

ed at the *Old Baily* the 15th of *January* 1702 for Ravishing and Carnally knowing *Grace Price* a Girl of 10 Years of Age, against her Will, on the 11th of *December* Preceding. It appeared by the Evidence that *Simpkins* pick'd up the Girl and carried her to an Alehouse, where he made her drink, and afterwards carried her to an empty House, in the New Buildings in the Lestel, and sitting down upon the Stairs, took the Girl upon his Lap; and together with the commission of the Villany gave her the Pox. The Surgeon who had the Girl under Cure deposed, that the Girl was spoiled in her Privy Parts, and that she could not be infected with the Venereal Distemper but by the Carnal Knowledge of a Man., the Girl said in Court that she cry'd out, but he bid her hush. The Circumstances of the Fact were plain upon *Simpkins*, and he had very little to say in his Defence, the Jury thereupon found him guilty and he received Sentence of Death. After Condemnation, he shew'd but little Penitence, endeavouring to extenuate his Crime; but at last did Confess he had had Carnal Knowledge of the Girl and offered Violence to her, he was Executed at *Tyburn* in the 30th Year of his Age, in Company with *John Johnson*, who when  
the



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the Ordinary pressed him to Repentance for his Crime, told him; *every Tub must stand upon its own Bottom.* William Baham for robbing on the High-way, Francis Keckwood for the same Crime, Thomas Pain for House-breaking, and William Stone a Boy of 12 Years of Age, for a Felony, and Mary Price for picking a Pocket, the 26th of January 1697.



## *The TRYAL, &c.*

O F

### *Sir Richard Blackham.*

**S**IR RICHARD BLACKHAM Bart. of *Kentish Town*, in the Parish of *Pancras* in the County of *Middlesex*, was Indicted for Counterfeiting Foreign Coin, called *Dutch Skillings*, on the 16th of November 1706. One of the Evidences was one *Benison*, who Depos'd, that Mr. *Angel* bespoke of him 2 pair of Flasks, and that he was paid for them by Sir Richard, Ten Shillings at one time, and Ten Shillings at another time; being asked who he deliver'd them to, he said He deliver'd them

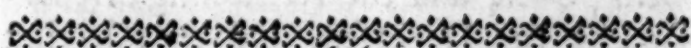
them to his Lady. He deposed further that when he went to receive the Last Ten Sillings at Sir *Richards* House in *Kentish Town*, he was persuaded by Sir *Richard*, to stay there all Night, to help them in the Morning: That on the next Morning, Mr. *Angel* and he got up, and went to work, in Making those *Skillings*, Sir *Richard* was there, and order'd the Fire himself, and he saw several made while he was there. Another Evidence, was *Angel* himself, who Depos'd that Sir *Richard* sent for him, and told him he heard he could make a very fine white Metal, *Angel* answered, that it was very good for Buckles; Sir *Richard* ask'd him, whether it would not make *Dutch Skillings*: he said he could not tell; but Sir *R.* said, it would do very well; then he replied, but is it no Crime to Make them? Sir *R.* said, I believe not: He replied again, Sir, you Living in the Midst of the Law, can easily ask Councel. The next time he saw him, he told him there was no harm in it, and that he did not care if the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen saw him at it. The Evidence further said, that Sir *Richard* proffer'd him Ten Pounds to live at *Kentish Town* with him, as a more Convenient Place for the Purpose; accordingly he remov'd himself with

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with his Family thither ; where he Several times with Sir *Richard*, did practice the Counterfeiting of *Dutch Skillings*. Sir *Richard* was always there, managing the Fire and giving Directions in Working. The Constable Depos'd that having Search'd Sir *Richard's* Chambers in the *Temple*, he found in two Drawers in an Escrutore, 2 Parcels of Counterfeit *Skillings*; and in the bottom of a Box of Writings, another Parcel of about a Hundred, which he produc'd in Court; and Searching Sir *Richard* found a Pocket Pistol about him Loaded with Powder and Ball; and asking Sir *Richard* why he carried it about him, he reply'd he did it for fear of a Surprize. Another Evidence Depos'd, that he was in the Room with the Constable, when those *Skillings* were found in his Lodgings, he caus'd an Essay to be made upon them, and found they had no Silver in them, 2 Other Evidences were called, who Depos'd that they saw Sir *Richard* several times Assisting and Ordering the Matters, in making the Counterfeit *Dutch Skillings*. Sir *Richard*, call'd Divers to Invalidate the Evidence of *Angel*, but the Court asking of them Questions, they appeared most of them to be Solicitors for the Prisoner, and that they had endeavour'd to persuade

## John Morgridge. 281

persuade *Angel* not to appear against Sir *Richard*, and profer'd him a Reward, if he would take the Fact upon himself. Sir *Richard* made a long Defence for himself, but little to the Purpose. The Evidence against him being very full, the Jury found him Guilty upon the Statute of the 14th of *Elizabeth*, and he was Sentenc'd to Forfeit all his Goods, Chattels, Lands and Tenements, and to Remain in prison During his Life.



*The* LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

O F

*John Morgridge.*

**J**OHN MORGRIDGE, Aged Forty Years, was born at *Canterbury*, whose Ancestors had been in the Service of the Crown near 200 Years; he was brought up in the Communion of the Church of *England*, and was at the Time when the Fact was committed a Kettle-Drummer to the First Troop of Guards, and was just stepping into a Commission, when  
this



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this Melancholy Accident happen'd, on the 17th of *June*, 1706.

He was indicted at the Sessions-House in the *Old Baily*, and try'd for the Murder of *William Cope*, Gent. on the 17th of *June*, 1706. The Evidence deposed, that Mr. *Cope* having newly got a Lieutenant's Commission, invited some Captains and other Gentlemen to dine with him, at the *Dolphin-Tavern* in *Tower-Street*, one of which carried Mr. *Morgridge* along with him; and that Dinner being over, and the Reckoning discharged by the Deceased, and they having after Dinner drank several Bottles of Wine, he invited several of them to the Guard-Room in the *Tower*, and amongst the rest the Prisoner, and having called for Wine there, while they were drinking, a Coach came to the Guard-Room-Door, and in it a Gentlewoman enquiring for Capt. *Cope*; upon which he went out, as also did Mr. *Morgridge*; that Capt. *Cope* having handed her out of the Coach and led her into the Guard-Room, she asked who would pay her Coach; upon which Mr. *Morgridge* said, I will, which he did, offering to Kiss her, which she scornfully rejected, telling him, she did not like his Face; to which he reply'd, he did not like hers; and giving her

her opprobrious Language, calling her Bitch, &c. threw Biscuits in her Face; upon which Mr. *Cope* desired him to forbear, telling him he was mistaken in the Person, desiring him to be gone. Upon which he threw down 2 s. saying, he would not be beholden to him for his Treat; he took up his Hat, seeming to go away, and snatching up a Bottle of Wine flung it at Mr. *Cope*; upon which Mr. *Cope* return'd another, which hit Mr. *Morgridge* on the Forehead; upon which he immediately drew his Sword, and gave the Deceased a Thrust with it over another Person's Shoulder, which gave him a Wound on the Left part of the Breast near the Left Pap, of which he immediately fell down, and spoke no more. The Jury acquitted him of the Statute of Stabbing, and brought in a Special Verdict.

The Judges therefore sitting on it some time after at the Queen's Bench Bar, found him guilty of Wilful Murther. But in the mean time he made his Escape out of the *Marshalsea*, and went beyond Sea. And being taken at *Ghent* in *Flanders*, was brought to *England*, and received Sentence of Death the 21st of *April*, 1708.

Being

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Being under Sentence he behaved himself very decently, submitting willingly to it, and own'd the Justice of it; saying that he had indeed been a great Sinner, but he was sorry he had any ways offended God and Man, and begged Pardon of both. And further said, that he had Hopes that God would shew him Mercy in another World, because he had always grieved for his Sins, and particularly for this, ever since he had made his Escape, when he was under no Apprehension of being brought to Condemnation here for it. That the Fact was continually before him, and the Remembrance of it grievous to him. That he had made strong Resolutions to amend his Life, and was always praying to God to pardon him, and keep him for the future. He declared he was in Charity with all the World even with them who had brought him to this his Punishment. He seemed not to be unwilling to die for the Fact, pray'd for the Conversion of all Wicked Persons, desiring that they would take warning by his Fall. He was Executed at *Tyburn* the 28th of *April* 1708. at the same time that *William Greg*, condemned for High Treason, and *David Baily* for the Murther of his own Brother, were.

*The*

The LIFE, TRYAL, &c.  
OF

*Arthur Chambers.*

**A**RTHUR CHAMBERS, was born in the Parish of *Shadwel* of mean Parentage, who neither gave him the Advantage of Education, nor any Trade, which might be some occasion of his becoming so notorious a Thief. For the earliest part of his Time not being employ'd at School, gave him an Opportunity to give a loose to his vicious Inclinations, which he did, beginning very early, in the Pilfering Trade, and for his Petty Larcenies was several times sent to *Bridemell*, to *Mill Dolly* (as they call it) that is, to beat Hemp; and this not reclaiming, but rather hardening him, upon his coming out from thence he took himself to his old Way of Living; and being ever and anon nick'd, and convicted for several Petty Larcenies, was ordered to *Shove the Tumbler* (as they call it,) that is, to be whipt at the Cart's Arse. And having gone a Length, and being arriv'd to Years fit for



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for greater Exploits, he fearing his vicious Inclinations, and the Solicitations of his thieving Acquaintance, would send him on a Journey Westward as far as *Hyde-Park* Corner, thought to get out of the Way, for fear of being *Nubb'd* at the *Nubbing Chit* (*i. e.* hang'd at *Tyburn*) and therefore *Arthur* being got safe beyond it, being now upon the strole travelled down to *Bristol*, and being short of Money, he hired himself as a Clicker to a Shoemaker, tho' he knew nothing at all of that Trade: But in order to prevent being discover'd, made it his Bargain not to enter upon Business till that Day sevennight, and equipping himself with his green Apron, was pretty much about the Shop and Door, that it might be taken notice of, by the other Gentlemen of the Craft, that he belong'd to that Shop. Having thus prepar'd himself for his Exploit, he goes to several Shops telling them Mr. such a one, his Master, had a Customer come for a pair of Boots and he not having a pair would fit him, he desired them to send him a Boot of the 8th Size to try on. They not suspecting *Crispin's* Roguery each of them readily lends them one, which he carried to a House of his Acquaintance, where  
he

## Arthur Chambers. 287

he had a Customer for them, who took them all off his Hands and march'd off immediately. But some few Hours after, the odd Boot neither being return'd nor the Fellow come for, some of them, went to *Arthur's* Master to enquire after their Boots: But he was altogether ignorant of the Matter, and they making a Noise about his Ears for employing such a Fellow almost stunn'd him; but he was soon rid of 'em, they thinking it proper to make the best of their way home, lest *Arthur* in their Absence should come with another Pretence and fetch the Fellows of them too. He being got off clear went down as far as *Cornwall*, where falling into the Acquaintance of Coiners, &c. he took to uttering false Money, for which he was allow'd 3 s. 6 d. in the Pound, and to buying of bad Money at a small Price, and teaging of it to put it off for good. But at last was catch'd in this Roguery, was sent to *Launceston* Goal in the County of *Cornwall*, where being Convicted at the Assizes, he was soundly fined and imprisoned, and lying there eighteen Months, was almost starved before he got his Fine remitted. Then he comes up to *London* again, and falling into his old Acquaintance, he took to his old Courses;

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Courses; and being with some of his Comrades in an Alehouse in the *Hay-Market* about Dinner-time, who were peckish, he borrowed a blue Apron, and goes to a neighbouring Bake-house, and putting a good Face on't brought off a Leg of Mutton and a Pudding for a Penny, which he and his Comrades eat merrily. But the right Owner afterwards coming for it, rallied the Baker to that Degree that he was glad to pay her the Price, to save his Ears from being excruciated with the Woman's Lurry, who was not satisfied with the Money, being disappointed of her own and her Family's Dinner.

At another time *Arthur Chambers* being drinking with some of his Associates in *Clare-Market*, borrows an Apron of the Tapster, and leaving his Hat behind, puts on the Person of Ale-Draper, and going out into the Market wanted a Pig, and seeing one wrapped up very choicely liked none he saw, but wanted a better. The Woman show'd him that which was so nicely wrapped up, which he seeming to approve, and having agreed for the Price, says, Good Woman, I live but just by here, and I'll take home the Pig and show it to my Guests and leave the Money in your Hands, and if  
they

they don't like it, I'll bring it back in a Minute. The Woman Let him have the Pig, and away he went with it to his Comrades, who having projected the Trick before hand, had got a dead Dog ready, and they taking out the Pig, wrapped up the Dog very neatly, which *Arthur* carry'd back to the Woman, telling her, the Gentlemen would have one a great deal bigger, which she not having, gave him back his Money, not looking into the Cloth, and *Arthur* scour'd away very nimbly. Soon after another Customer coming, who wanted a very fine Pig, the Woman taking it up and recommending it to the Customer for a very nice Pig, opened the Cloth to show it her, but to her great surprize found her fine Pig was turn'd to a Dog. This Metamorphos alarm'd the Markot-people, that they banter'd and hooted at the poor Woman to that degree that she was so ashamed, that she was obliged to pack up and quit her Stand for that Night.

He was apprehended again and indicted for stealing a Hair Camblet Gown from *Lawrence Lawrence* the 26th of *November* 1699. to which Indictment he pleaded guilty; and being Burnt in the Hand for it, got out of *Newgate* and fell immediately to his old thieving Trade again.



At another time *Arthur* and his Gang going upon the Hoist, (i. e. by one standing upon the Shoulders of another in a dark Night to get into a Window one story high, and rob the House) He got into a House in *St. James's-street*, where there was a dead Child laid out upon a Table cover'd with a white Cloth, which he supposing to be a parcel of Linen, ransacked the Room, throwing whatsoever he pick'd up upon the Corps then bundling all up together in a hurry threw it out of the Window to his Comrades, then getting out they went away immediately to a Lock (one that buys stolen goods) to turn their Booty into ready Money, where upon opening the Bundle, they to their great Surprise found the dead Child. They then fell to consulting how to dispose of it, one was for throwing it into an house of office, another for cutting it to pieces and throwing it into the *Thames*. But *Arthur* not liking their Contrivance told them, as he had stolen the Child, he would have the disposing of it. So having gotten a box they put in the Child, went all to an Alehouse in *Helborn*, ordered a Porter to be called, to whom they gave the box, directing him to carry it to the House from whence they had stolen it, and to bring an Answer.

swer. The Porter trudges away with his Burden, and finding the House delivers the Box. The People at first scrupled to receive it ; but he telling them he was sure it was to be deliver'd there, and desiring them to open it, for he was to carry back an Answer, they did so, and to their great Surprise found their dead Child before they knew they had lost it ; then running up Stairs found not only the Child gone from off the Table, but their Chest of Drawers, Escrutores, &c. broke open, and several Things of Value stollen. They therefore apprehended the Porter, who insisting upon his Innocency, and telling from whence he brought the Box, they getting a Constable went immediately to the House, but *Arthur* and his Comrades never staid for an Answer, and the poor Porter was committed to the Gatehouse, *Westminster*, and got not off without great Trouble, loss of Time and Charges.

He was likewise apprehended again the 16th of *October* 1701, and try'd at the *Old Bayly* for breaking the House of *Joseph Wilson*, and stealing Plate to a considerable Value ; but the Evidences not swearing positively enough against him, he got clear for that time.

At another Time *Arthur* having a mind to Trade upon the *Royal Exchange*, goes thither, with some of his Attendants; and after having walked up and down for some Time, at last steps up to an *Italian Merchant*, who could speak but little *English*, but so much that *Arthur* gave him to understand he had a profitable Bargain for him, which made him listen to him. In the mean time one of *Arthur's* Accomplices brushes up to the same Merchant, and entertains him with such another Story. He being thus engaged, *Arthur* takes the Opportunity of diving into his Pocket and fetching thence a Purse and a Gold Watch, privately conveys it to a Receiver that attended him. But not being content with what he had got, aiming a second time at a very fine Handkerchief, the Merchant catch'd his Hand in his Pocket, and collaring him, cry'd out, a Pickpocket; which made a great many flock about him presently. His Comrade seeing what Danger *Arthur* was in, steps to the Porter of the *Exchange*, who was standing at one Corner, and bid him make Proclamation if any one had lost a Purse and a Gold Watch they should come to him, and telling the Marks they should have it.

This

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This came immediately to the *Italian's* Ear, who lets *Arthur* go, and runs to sell the Marks ; but the Person who had set the Crier to work had brush'd off and was not to be heard of.

*Arthur* having now with the Wages of Iniquity equipp'd himself like a Gentleman, as he one Day walking over *Lincolns-Inn-Fields*, sees a young Country Fellow hovering over a Marble-Board, he steps up to him, gives him a tap upon the Shoulder, which making him turn about, he beckon'd him to him, asking him what Country Man he was, and what was the Occasion of his coming to Town. The Fellow answer'd him, he was a *Gloucestershire* Man, and came to Town to get a Place. He then enquired of him if he was willing to serve a Gentleman ; The Fellow reply'd he was. Then says *Arthur* if you will you shall serve me, and I'll allow you 4 *l.* a Year standing Wages, 6 *s.* per Week board Wages, and all my cast-off Clothes, which, says he, you see are none of the worst. The Country Fellow was overjoy'd at his good Fortune, and readily accepted the Proffer ; and in order to initiate him into his Service, says *Arthur* immediately, Here *Jack*, carry my Cloak, and follow me : The



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Fellow put it upon his Arm, and follow'd him to the May-Pole in the *Strand*, *Arthur* bid him call a Coach, which he did, and *Arthur* stept into it, and *Jack* was stepping in after him, but *Arthur* cry'd, Hold, hold, you must ride behind, which he did; and going to the *Bell Tavern* in *Kingstreet*, *Westminster*, where he dined of Fowls, &c. and his Man waiting on him at Dinner, he gave him the Remainder, and a Glass or two of Claret: Then tells him, *Jack*, I am this Afternoon going to wait on a Person of Quality, where it is the usual Practice for Gentlemens Servants, while they wait for their Masters, to fall to Gaming, and you being unexperienc'd may easily be drawn in; therefore to prevent this, if you have any Money, put it into my Hands, and when you want, 'tis but ask and have it. *Jack* was very thankful for his Caution, thinking him to be a very honest Gentleman, and pulling a Leather Pouch out of his Pocket, in which was Forty-nine Shillings, gives it to his Master to keep for him. Then *Arthur* bid *Jack* call a Coach, he while he was gone pays the Reckoning out of *Jack's* Purse, and bidding the Coach drive to the *Temple-Gate*, and stepping out told the Coachman his Man was

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was to pay him, and brushes briskly off, and both bilk'd the Coach of his Fare and Jack of his honest Master.

Having been so often at the *Old Bailey* that his Name was well known in Court, he fearing it might be prejudicial to him, changes that, but not his Manners. And being apprehended was try'd there the 11th of *January* 1702, by the Name of *John Roberts* alias *Chambers*, &c. upon four several Indictments; 1<sup>st</sup>, For a Felony for stealing a Rug and other Goods from *William Hollinsworth*, the 4<sup>th</sup> of *March*, in the 13<sup>th</sup> Year of King *William*. 2<sup>dly</sup>, For breaking the House of *William Brooks*, and stealing divers Goods on the 10<sup>th</sup> of *March*, in the 13<sup>th</sup> Year of King *William*. A third Time for breaking the House of *Nicholas Price* and stealing divers Goods, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of *March*, in the same Year: But notwithstanding of all these he got off for want of positive Evidence. But being indicted a fourth time for breaking the House of *Dr. William Halsey* the 11<sup>th</sup> of *January* 1702, with an Intent to steal his Goods, he being catch'd in the Fact, the Evidence fixt that upon him, and he was found Guilty, but his Sentence was respited till the next Sessions. And the Sessions following *Arthur Chambers*,

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*John Hawkins, George Purchase, George Tomers, John Cope, William Richards alias Richardson, and Joanna Sucket*, were indicted for the Murther of *John Cooper*, a Constable, on the 12th of *May*, 1702, For that the said *Arthur Chambers* gave the Deceased a Mortal Wound on the Breast near the Right Pap, of which he languish'd to the 16th and then died; and that the other Prisoners were present and aiding and abetting thereto. The Evidence deposed, That the High Constable having received Orders to put the Laws in Execution against Immorality, &c. the Constables went to *May-Fair*; that there *Hawkins* and one *William Wallis* drew their Swords and opposed them, and made several Passes at the High Constable; that they were both taken in the Riot, and *Wallis* was rescued; that the Mob crying after them that they were Informing Dogs, the Constables were overpowered, and the Constable was killed by some of them, and one *Evans* who assisted him received Eleven Wounds, which it was thought would be the Occasion of his Death. It was proved that the Prisoners all of them, but *Joanna Sucket*, were in the Riot, which lasted for above an Hour; but it could not be proved that  
any

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any of them gave the Constable his Wound, so they were all Acquitted.

At another time *Arthur* being upon the Road, and perceiving a single Gentleman on Horseback riding towards him, he fell to contriving a Stratagem to get it, and bethinking himself of a Leather Purse he had in his Pocket, he fills it full of small Stones, and lays it in the Track which he knew the Gentleman must keep, and planted himself behind a Hedge. The Gentleman coming up to the Place, spies the Purse lie before him, and alighting off his Horse, while he was stooping to take it up, out starts *Arthur*, springs upon him, knocks him down, mounts his Horse and rides up to *London* upon him, and sold him for ten Pounds.

After his coming again to *London* he committed a great many Felonies and Burglaries; and being afterwards concern'd with *Moll Raby* and *Joseph Hatfield* in stealing a Box, wherein were a Gold Box with 38  $\frac{1}{2}$  Broad Pieces of Gold, a Silver Purse, 6 Guineas, a Picture set with Diamonds, 2 Diamond Rings, and a Diamond Buckle, and other Goods to a considerable Value, from the Lady *Cavendish*; they first put a Trick upon *Moll* by sending her out

O 5

and



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opening the Box, took out the Money, and she having baulked them by conveying the other Goods out of her House unknown to them, *Arthur* made himself an Evidence against her and hang'd her, *Nov. 3. 1703.* And having wiped off a large Score of Villanies, he immediately run on upon a New, and committed many Facts, but had the good Luck to escape the Gallows. He was indicted twice at the *Old Baily*; once with *Jack Hall* the 17th of *October*, for stealing a Silk Handkerchief from *Hannah Glubb*, but now supposing their Case to grow desperate, the Prosecutor was so easie in her Evidence against them, that it appeared highly probable they had bought a Reconciliation of her before they came there, whereupon of that they were acquitted. The second, For a Felony and Burglary in breaking the House of *Mr. William Green*, and stealing Plate to a considerable Value, on the 10th of the same Month, *viz. October 1706*, for which he was indicted at the *Old Baily*; where his old Brother in Iniquity, *Jack Hall*, to spin the Thread of his own Life out a little longer, became Evidence against him: Upon which and other corroborating Evidences, the Jury found him Guilty of the Indictment, and

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and he received Sentence to die accordingly. But *Jack Hall* having sent his old Comrade *Arthur* to *Hyde-Park-Corner*, as if he regretted living without his dear Brother in Iniquity *Arthur*, run on in his Villainous Course with such a Carreer, that he likewise arrived at *Tyburn* in 1707.

Being under Sentence of Death, and having then no Ground to hope for a Reprieve, he shew'd some Signs of Remorse for his past Crimes, owned that he had indeed liv'd a very loose and wicked Life, had committed many Robberies and Burglaries, but did not care to mention the Particulars, saying they were too many, and beyond the Power of his Memory to mention them all; and that he judg'd it would be of no Use to the World, to know more of his Robberies than they knew already, which was a great deal. He owned he had received Mercy before, but had not taken care to improve it as he ought to have done. He said he ask'd Pardon of God, whom he had offended, and from whom only he look'd for Mercy. Being at *Tyburn*, *Arthur Chambers* and *Dick Morris* told the Ordinary, that the Informations they had deliver'd to Mr. *Billets* were true, and *Chambers* said particularly

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cularly he had done no Injury either to the Living or Dead in that Information that relates to the Riot in *May-Fair*, where Mr. *Cooper* the Constable was basely murdered, in which he declar'd that *Thomas Cook*, the Butcher of *Gloucester* (who suffer'd for it, and with such an Air of seeming Penitence to his last Breath deny'd it) was concerned in it. He afterwards desired the Prayers of the Standers-by, and ended his Life at *Tyburn* the 27th Year of his Age, 1706. in Company with *Richard Morris*, *Thomas Arnold*, *James Gardiner*, *William Bently* and *William Dabell*.



## *The* LIFE, TRYAL, &c. O F

*Richard Lewis.*

**R**ICHARD LEWIS, born in the Parish of *St. Clements Danes*, was by Trade a Butcher, but leaving off his Trade took to picking of Pockets and Tail-drawing (*i. e.* stealing of Swords from Gentlemens Sides as they walk the Streets;)

Streets ; ) in which Exercise, he was very dextrous, and committed a great many Robberies in *London, Westminster* and *Southwark*, for some of which he narrowly escaped hanging at *Kingston*. And once practised his Art of *Tail-drawing* on *Sir Owen Buckingham*, who remembering him for his Dexterity when he was Lord Mayor when *Dick* came before him at the *Old Baily*, honour'd him with the Title of his Sword Bearer. But he did not confine himself to practice only in the two before mentioned Branches of the Thieving Trade, but was one of the Persons who was concern'd with *Thomas Hunter* in stealing a Glass from *Mr. Fordham's* Shop in which were Jewels to the value of 600 l.

*Dick Lewis* once happening into the Company of some Persons that had no great Respect for *Robert Stephens*, the Messenger of the Press, was put upon a Project to put a Trick upon him ; which he effected as follows. *Dick* Equips himself like a Porter, and goes early in the Morning to *Mr. Stephens's* House, telling him he must go immediately to *Mr. Sprint's* House, a Bookseller in *Little Britain*, who wanted to speak with him about some earnest Business. *Mr. Sprint* being at that time Warden of the Stationers,



oners Company, *Robin Stephens* thought he might probably want him to go upon the search after some Almanacks which were printing privately; so he being a very active Man in such Business, he loses no time but Hurries away to Mr. *Sprint's* House; *Dick Lewis* watching him out lost no time, but by that time he could be got thither comes back telling *Robin's* Wife, that her Husband was going abroad with Mr. *Sprint* about some Business, and it being a drisly Morning fear'd it might rain, and therefore desired her to send him his Cloak, which she, not suspecting any thing, did, which *Dick* having got made off with immediately and turn'd it into Ready Money. When *Robin Stephens* came to Mr. *Sprint* desiring to know what Service he had to command him, he was answered none; *Robin* telling him what Message he received from him by a Porter. Mr. *Sprint* told him he had sent no Porter to him. Upon this Home he goes immediately, and his Wife taking notice that he came Home without his Cloak asked him where was his Cloak which she had sent him just now? My Cloak, says *Robin*, what Cloak do you talk on! I sent for no Cloak, No? said she! Why the very same Porter that fetch'd you to Mr.

*Sprint*

*Sprint* came back and said you wanted your Cloak, and I gave it him, to carry to you. Upon this *Robin* found he had been trick'd, fell a cursing and swearing like a Madman, saying, *And be pox't to you, Mr. Sprint sent no body for me, nor did I send any body for my Cloak.* *Robin* puts Advertisement after Advertisement into the News Papers, but to no manner of purpose, for he never heard of his Cloak again. But the loss of his Cloak and Charge of Advertising were not so great a Mortification to him as the Banter, he was continually tiezed with about it; for whenever he went upon the Search into any Printing House, and was prying and peering about, and enquiring of the Journey-men that were correcting; or locking up a form, what it was? they would frequently answer him, that it was *A Hue and Cry after his Cloak*, which would make poor *Robin* as mad as a fury.

He was indicted at the *Old Baily* the 30th of *August* 1705, for robbing *Joseph Edwards* on the High way, and taking from him a pair of Leather Bags, 2 Shirts 25 Guineas, a Broad Piece, and 4 l. in Money the 30th of *December* before. The Prosecutor deposed, that as he was riding down *Watling-street*, *Richard Lewis* and some other Men came up to him, on each

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each side of his Horse, and turning down *Bread-street*, they set upon him, and took away the Bags, &c. He being an Old Offender, the Jury found him guilty. While he lay under Sentence of Death he deny'd the Fact for which he was condemned ; but owned he had done many ill things, and that his chief way of robbing was picking Pockets, stealing Handkerchiefs, and Swords ; he confessed he had deserved Death, and been once pardoned ; he owned he was condemned with *Thomas Hunter*, &c. in stealing *Mr. Fordham* the Goldsmith's Glais, in which there was to the value of 600 *l*. He had employ'd a Person to get him a Reprieve, who took some Money of him for that purpose, but failed him ; which prevented him from making Preparation for Death as he ought, and so incensed him, that he could not forbear reflecting on him at the Gallows, and fell into a fit : but being recovered, was Executed at *Tyburn* in the 25th Year of his Age the 19th of September 1705. in Company with *Isaac Meadows*, *James King*, *Eleanor Jackson* alias *Scotch Nell*, and *Ann Gardiner*.

*James*

*The* LIFE, TRYAL, &c.  
O F  
*James King.*

**J**AMES KING, born in the Parish of St. Giles's in the Fields, by Trade a Carpenter, and served some time in the Carpenters Crew on board her Majesty's Ship the *Torbay*, Capt. *Wilson* Commander; but coming home he fell into loose Company, and took to Thieving with them. He was indicted the 30th of *August* 1705, at the *Old Baily*, for breaking the House of *Francis Saunders* in the Night-time, and stealing Goods to a considerable Value, and being pursued was taken with some of Mr. *Saunders's* Clothes on his Back; there were two of them in Company, who being pursued fired off Pistols, and shot one of the Watchmen in the Thigh. He deny'd the Fact upon his Tryal; however the Jury found him Guilty. Being under Sentence of Death he confess'd the Fact, and that he had been a very wicked Liver, and had been a Thief and House-



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House-breaker for some Years, and that he had before been like to have been hang'd about three Years before, when on a certain Evening he and another stole a Box out of a Waggon belonging to the *Swan-Inn* at *Holbourn-Bridge*; but the Evidence not being strong enough to Convict him, he escaped. And that about six Weeks before, he with *Jack Hall*, *Thomas Evans* and *Thomas Ellis* broke up a Gentleman's House in *Golden-Square*, and stole a great deal of Plate and other Goods. He confess'd a Sorrow for his mispent Life, and at the Place of Execution spoke thus to the Spectators; *Good People, I am a young Man and a great Sinner; my Mother was the Cause of my Ruin by being too fond of me, and giving me Money to spend idly: Therefore I desire all Mothers to take Warning by my Fall.* He was executed at *Tyburn* in the twentieth Year of his Age, *Sept. 19. 1705.*

*The*

William Elby. 307

*The* LIFE, TRYAL, &c.

O F

*William Elby.*

**W**ILLIAM ELBY *alias* DUN, was born at *Deptford* in the County of *Kent*, of honest Parents, who bound him Apprentice to a Block-Maker at *Rotherhith*, with whom he served out his Time; and was no sooner out of it, but instead of setting up or working for himself, he went rambling abroad, and got into bad Company, which soon brought him into the Practice of their Vices. He first betook himself to go upon the *Water Pad*; that is, to go by Night on board any Ship or Vessel lying in the River of *Thames*, and where he found no body in them, or found them asleep, to rob them: He was several times apprehended for this kind of Robbery, and was like to have suffered for it. He then fell into the Acquaintance of *Samuel Shotland*, a Gardener, and in Company with him committed several Burglaries: Which *Shotland* was condemn'd for many Felonies and Burglaries, and

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and hanged at *Tyburn* the 30th of *December*, 1702; who when he was at the Place of Execution pulled off his Shoes and flinging them among the Spectators, said, *My Father and Mother often told me I should die with my Shoes on, but you may all see that I have now made them both Lyars.* He is likewise said to have been concern'd with *John Goff*, and some others, in Robbing several Goldsmiths in *Boswell-Court*, by fetching Goldsmiths thither in order to buy Plate of a Lady, whose Steward *Goff* pretended to be; which *Goff* was Executed with *Samuel Shotland* the 30th of *December* above-mention'd. He also committed some Robberies in Company with *Toothless Tom* (so called for having his Teeth knock'd out by a Gentleman whose Pocket he attempted to pick in *St. Margaret's Church at Westminster*) who was hang'd at *Tyburn* the 22d of *March*, in the 23d Year of his Age. He likewise committed several Robberies with *Peter Bennet*, alias *Flower*, alias *French Peter*, so called from the Place of his Birth, being born at *Mort* in the Province of *Poitou* in *France*, who was a most notorious Malefactor, and was likewise Executed at *Tyburn* on the 25th of *October*, 1704. He is likewise said to have been

been concern'd with *John Estrick* in robbing Esquire *Glover* of *Hackney* of Plate to the Value of 80 l. who was likewise Executed for other Crimes the 10th of *March* 1702-3. and likewise with *James Hacker*, a Taylor's Son near *Exeter-Exchange* in the *Strand*, who was executed at *Tyburn*, in the 24th Year of his Age, for several Burglaries the 6th of *June*, 1707. And likewise committed Robberies with *William Stanley*, who was executed at *Tyburn* for killing a Watchman, the 26th of *January*, 1703-4, in the 20th Year of his Age. But though *William Elby* had seen so many terrible Examples of his wicked Companions being cut off by untimely Ends before him, yet he took no Warning thereby, but rather grew more hardned in his Villanies, running on as if he thought Justice would never overtake him.

*William Elby* once having 18 Guineas in his Pocket, and being desirous to add to the Sum, and meeting with a Lieutenant coming from *Chelsea*, attempted to rob him. The Lieutenant being used to fight for Money, was not willing to part with what he had without fighting, so a sharp Encounter happened between them, and the Lieutenant giving *Elby* several Cuts over the Head, got the Victory,



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Victory, and fell to plundering his Enemy, and finding some Guineas in *Elby's* Pocket put them into his own, and binding him to his good Behaviour left him to shift for himself. Having met with this Loss, he was enraged so as to grow more desparate than before, and wanting Money told some of his Comrades he would have Money. though he sold his Soul to the Devil for it; who, wicked as they were, dehorted him from that Resolution, telling him, that Wizards and Witches were never rich: To whom he reply'd, *that he was resolv'd to do it to better Advantage.* However, he did not put that Project in Execution, but getting himself rigg'd in a good Equipage, gets into a Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick held by Mr. *Abel* in *Tork-Buildings*, he made a shift to carry off two or three Gold Watches, and turning them into Ready Money put himself into Stock again.

At another time *William Elby* and some of his Companions, as good at Roguery as himself, being got to *Bartholomew-Fair*, to make their Market, they there espying among the Crowd a Country-Fellow on Horseback staring at a Merry *Andrew* who was playing his Pranks, they seeing him so intent upon

the

the Buffoon, cut the Girts of the Saddle, and several supported him on the Saddle while *Elby* led the Horse away unperceiv'd by the Countryman, which being done they lets go the Saddle and down falls the Countryman into the Mire, in a great Surprize to find his Horse was vanished from under him.

Having gone on a great length in Villanies, he was apprehended and indicted for breaking the House of Mr. *James Barry* at *Fulham* the 2d of *August* 1707, between the Hours of 12 and 2 in the Night, with an intent to rob it; and likewise for the Murther of *Nicholas Hatfield*, by giving him one mortal Wound with a Rapier near the Left Pap, of which he died soon after. The Evidence depose, That the Prosecutor hearing a Noise about Mr. *Barry's* House between Twelve and Two in the Morning, arose with his Wife and Man (*Nicholas Hatfield*) and went down Stairs and there found a Window broken open, and going to the Window espied two Men without, about five Yards from the Window, one of which was the Prisoner. Whereupon they ran immediately up Stairs for Arms, but *Nicholas Hatfield* stepped into the Kitchen, but was met by *William Elby*, who drove

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drove *Hatfield* into the Pantry and gave him a Stab in the Breast, of which he died twelve Hours after. That in the Scuffle between *Elby* and *Hatfield*, one of the Thieves fired a Pistol to disengage them, which happen'd to wound *Elby* in the Leg; and that a Button was found in the Pantry, which appeared to be a Button that did belong to *Elbys* Coat that he had lost in the Scuffle, and also a bloody Sword was found under the Hay-cock, and also a Receipt that had been given Mr. *Barry* for Money paid. The Prisoner had little to say in his Defence, the Fact was so clearly proved, the Jury thereupon found him Guilty of the Fact; and he received Sentence to die accordingly; at which Time he was so impious as to say, *G---d d---mn you all.*

Being under Sentence of Death, and visited by the *Ordinary*, he confess'd he was guilty of the Robbery he was convicted for; but would by no means confess that he was guilty of the Murther, nor would by any means be persuaded to discover his Accomplices; saying peremptorily, that if any one should again ask him any such Questions he would presently knock him down; and being pressed by the *Ordinary* to clear his

his Conscience in making an open Confession. He answered, he would resolve no Questions; for he intended to die in Charity with the World, which he could not do if he brought any into Trouble: And the *Ordinary* answering him, that he was much mistaken; for his discovering his Accomplices could be no Evidence against them in Law, and could do them no Harm as to that; but might possibly be a means to prevent them falling under the like Condemnation. But he obstinately refused to make any Discovery, saying, he would not come to any Particulars. He confessed in the General, that he had been very wicked, and had committed all manner of Sins whatsoever, saying he would confess them to God alone, and ask his Pardon for them. The *Ordinary* likewise telling him that he did very ill in cursing the Bench upon his Tryal; he seemed unconcerned at that Expression, shewing little Sorrow for that or any thing else he had done, saying he was to answer with the Loss of his Life for all his Faults, and why should he be grieved for them since he must die for them? By the further Pressures of the *Ordinary*, he seemed to relent a little, and gave the following Account of his

P

Life;



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Life; saying he was about 32 Years of Age, born at *Deptford*, as above related: To which he added, that bad Company had debauched him and enticed him into the Sins of Swearing, Drinking, Whoring, Thieving, Sabbath-breaking, and the like, which by Degrees had brought him to that shameful and untimely End. He added further, that he had sometimes served at Sea in her Majesty's Navy, and sometimes at Land in the second Regiment of Foot-Guards; said he had done many ill Things, which he would not particularize, and had formerly received both the Law and Mercy, which to his Sorrow he had not improved to Amendment. He was carried to *Fulham* to be Executed on *Saturday* the 13th of *September* 1707, where the Ordinary still pressing of him to clear his Conscience by making a full Discovery of his Accomplices; he reply'd, he desired his Prayers and no Questions to be ask'd, owning he was guilty of the Burglary but not of the Murther, meaning (as he express'd it) that he had not done it himself, but another Man with him had, but he would not tell who that Man was, or whether there were more than one beside himself he would not discover,

ver, telling the *Ordinary* in an angry Mood, he by asking such Questions put all good Things out of his Head he had put in it before. While he lay under Condemnation, he sent a Letter to the *Ordinary*, which was directed to be left for either of the Partners that keep the Brewhouse at *Execution-Dock*, and is as follows;

Sir,

‘ YOU may remember in *May* last  
 ‘ was two Years your House was  
 ‘ broken open, and there was lost to  
 ‘ the Value of 250 *l.* in Gold and Silver;  
 ‘ and sometime before you lost a Wo-  
 ‘ man’s Watch, and one other Watch  
 ‘ the outside Case being Tortoise-shell  
 ‘ studded, and two Pair of Stockings;  
 ‘ and understanding you have been ma-  
 ‘ ny times desirous of knowing the Per-  
 ‘ son. This present is to acquaint you  
 ‘ that if you’ll give your selves the  
 ‘ Trouble of coming to *Newgate* (where  
 ‘ I now am a Prisoner under Sentence  
 ‘ of Death) I believe you may be sa-  
 ‘ tisfied of the Truth of the same. I

‘ am, *Gentlemen,*

‘ Altho’ a dying Person, yet your

Sept. 11th, 1707.  
 from *Newgate*.

*Humble Servant,*

WILLIAM DUNN.

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*Please if thought requisite to be as quick as possible, since on Saturday-Morning I shall make my Exit.*

The Ordinary ask'd him if the Letter came from him; he told him it did, and that he himself stole the 250 l. alone by himself. And again pressing him to discover who kill'd Mr. Barry's Gardener, he reply'd, *he would never do it.* The Ordinary asking him if he was willing Mr. Barry, the Minister of Fulham, should come to him, he reply'd, he would be glad of his Prayers, but would have no more Questions put to him. Mr. Barry came to him to the Place of Execution, and gave him very pious and excellent Exhortations, and pressed him to an open Confession, but he obstinately refused to make any, and so he withdrew. And after the usual Prayers were said and the Penitential Psalm sung, he was informed that he might have what time he pleased allowed him for his private Devotion; he had his Cap put over his Face, and answered, he desired no more Time than to say the *Lord's Prayer*, which he did, and the Cart drew away; and he was afterwards hang'd in Chains at Fulham.

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The T R Y A L, &c.

O F

Capt. *William Kid*, &c.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM KID, Nicholas Churchill, James Horn, Robert Lamley, William Jenkins, Gabriel Loffe, Hugh Parret, Richard Barlycorn, Darby Mullins and Abel Owen, were indicted for Piracy and Robbery on the High Sea, committed the 30th of Jan. 1697, ten Leagues distant from Cutchin in the East Indies, and that they there did set upon a certain Merchant-Ship called the *Quida Merchant*, and took 250 Bags of Sugar, 20 Bails of Raw Silk, 200 Bails of Muffin, 3 Rumels and other Goods of Persons unknown. They were try'd before the Right Worshipful Dr. Oxendine, Dean of the Archés, Judge of his Majesty's High Court of Admiralty of England, and other of his Majesty's Justices, on May the 9th, 1701. It appear'd by the Evidence, that they put to Sea in the *Adventure Gally*, about the latter End of April or beginning of May 1696, from *Plimouth*, 70 Men and 30 Guns,

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Guns, of which Capt. *Kid* was Commander, and were bound to *New York* in the *West Indies*, and in their Way they took a *French Ship*, a Banker, which they carried with them as a Prize, and condemn'd the same by a Court of Admiralty ; and that Capt. *Kid*, when at *New York*, set up Articles, inviting Men into his Service, who were to share with him in such Prizes as he should take, and that in a little time he got 155 Men on board, and then set sail to divers Places, viz. to *Maderas*, *St. Auga*, *Bonavist*, *Madagascar*, *Mahela*, and several other Places, and then to the Mouth of the *Red Sea* ; and that from thence they went to *Bab's Key*, where they staid three Weeks for the *Mocco Fleet's* coming : Upon which he landed some Men to make a Discovery upon the High Lands if they could discern any Ships, and sent out Boats twice, who being return'd brought no Advice : However he sent a third time, and they being return'd, told him there was about fourteen Sail of Ships in the Harbour, with *English*, *Dutch* and *Moorish* Colours, and that the biggest Sail lay with her Fore-top Sail loose, ready to sail. Upon this he lay with his Ship on one side of the Island, and sent some Men on the other side

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side to discover, if they should go that Way. And in the Night the Fleet came down, and the Men were for following them, but Capt. Kid gave Orders that they should not stir till the next Morning, saying he would pick and cull the best of them, and would make a good Voyage of it; and accordingly the next Morning he fell in with the Fleet, and fired several Guns at them, and they at him, and they having *English* and *Dutch* Convoys which secured them, he was forc'd to sail away; and sailing towards an *English* Factory called *Carrowar*, he met with a *Moorish* Ship which belonged to *Bombay*, and bound to *Surrat*, out of which they took one *Parker*, an *Englishman*, for a Pilot, and one *Antonio*, a *Portuguese*, for an Interpreter, and took out Goods, and hoisted the Men up with their Arms tied behind them, and beat them with Curtelasses on the Back to make them confess if they had any Money, and after that plunder'd the Ship and let them go. After which they went to *Carrowar*, where the Factory having had some Information of the Matter, ask'd him for the two Persons; *Parker* and *Antonio*, and he denied that he had seen them, though they were in the Hold at the same time. From thence

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they put to Sea, and met with a *Portuguese* Man of War, who being too strong for him he left them, and sailed to the Coast of *Malabar* for Wood and Water which they wanted; and that going ashore they plundered the Natives of divers Goods: Whereupon the Natives killing his Cooper, he order'd all his Men ashore to fire their Houses; and they took one of the Natives and bound him to a Tree, and Capt. *Kid* ordered one of his Men to shoot him. And after that they met another *Moorish* Ship, one Skipper *Michael*, a *Dutchman*, being Master, belonging to some *Armenian* Merchants, which they chased with *French* Colours, which they perceiving hoisted out *French* Colours too; then Capt. *Kid* hailed them in *French*, and commanded the Officer on board, and order'd one Monsieur *Le Roy* to personate him; and that the Skipper *Michael* was no sooner aboard, and in his Custody, but *Kid* told him he was Captain now, and seized the *Moorish* Ship and Goods; upon which the Skipper offered to pay him as much for the Goods as they were worth: But *Kid* refused the Offer, and carried the Ship to *Madagascar*, where the Goods were shared and the Ship sunk. And that

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that afterwards they took a *Moorish* Ketch, but the Men made their Escape a shore, which they afterwards plundered and burnt. And that after this they met a *Portuguese* Ship, which they plundered, and kept her a Week in their Custody, but being chased by seven *Dutch* Men of War, they were forced to leave her. And that afterwards on the 30th of *January* 1697, then they came up with the *Quida*, out of which they took the Goods before-mentioned, and shared the Money aboard the Ship, the whole being divided into 160 Shares, whereof Capt. *Kid* had 40 Shares, and the rest of the Men some a whole Share, and some a half Share; that then they came to *Madagascar* where they divided the Goods as before; but the *Adventure Gally* being leaky they sunk her, and took out all the Effects and put them into the *Quida Merchant*, and fitted her for a Man of War; and that as soon as ever he came near the Island, Capt. *Culliford*, a noted Pyrate in the *Mocco* Frigate, sent a *Canoe* from aboard, the Men of which told them they heard they were come to take them and hang them; upon which Capt. *Kid* assured them that he had no such Design, and invited the Captain on board, and afterwards

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wards went on board Capt. *Culliford's* Ship, where drinking with him, he told him, That his Soul should broil in Hell before he would do him any Injury, and that after this several Presents were exchanged betwixt them, and Capt. *Kid* gave Capt. *Culliford* four Guns and an Anchor, which Capt. *Culliford* wanted for his Defence. Capt. *Kid* in his Defence pleaded that the Ships had *French* Passes, but he could not prove it; and the Witnesses for the King denied they ever saw any such. He produc'd two Commissions which he had from the Government; the one was for taking *French* Ships and Goods in the late War, the other for taking Pyrates; both which Commissions he had acted contrary to. This Evidence also affected *Nicholas Churchill, James How, Gabriel Loffe, Hugh Parrot, Darby Mullins* and *Abel Owen*, who acted voluntarily in Concert with him. But *Robert Lamly* and *William Jenkins* were Apprentices, and *Richard Barlycorn* was the Captain's Servant; upon which Consideration they were Acquitted; but all the rest were found Guilty.

They were a Second time indicted for robbing a *Moorish* Ship, 50 Leagues from Fort *Carrowar* in the *East Indies*, and taking

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taking thence 100 lb. of Coffee, 60 lb. of Pepper, 100 lb. of Myrrh, and 20 *Arabian* Pieces of Gold, on the 20th of September 1697.

They were likewise indicted a Third time for robbing a *Moorish* Ship on the High Sea, 4 Leagues from *Calicut* in the *East Indies*, on the 27th of November in the same Year, and taking the Ship and Apparel, 2 Horses, 50 *Indian* Quilts, and divers other Goods.

They were a Fourth time indicted for robbing a *Moorish* Ketch, 4 Leagues from *Calicut*, on the 20th of December in the said Year, and taking thence 30 Tubs of Sugar-Candy, and 10 Fails of Sugar. To this Indictment *Churchill*, *How* and *Owen* pleaded Guilty.

They were a Fifth time indicted for robbing a *Portuguese* Ship, 12 Leagues from *Calicut*, on the 20th of January, 1696-7. To which Indictment *Churchill*, *How* and *Owen* pleaded Guilty. And the Evidence being to the same Effect as in the first Indictment, the rest were all found Guilty, except the three Servants, who were acquitted.

Capt. *William Kid* was also indicted for the Murther of *William Moor* on the Coast of *Malabar* in the *East Indies*, on the 30th of October 1696, on board the

*Adven-*

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*Adventure Gally.* It appeared by the Evidence that *Moor* was Gunner of the said Ship, and was grinding a Chissel; and that Capt. *Kid* came to him and ask'd him what Discourse that was about taking a Ship called the *Loyal Captain*, of which one *How* was Commander? To which *Moor* made Answer, he said no such Words: To which *Kid* reply'd he was a lousie Dog; and that *Moor* answer'd *Kid*, that if he was a lousie Dog he had brought him to it, and had been his Ruin as well as others. That there-upon *Kid* walking upon the Deck and repeating several times, *Tou Dog, I ruin'd you!* he took up a Bucket bound with Iron Hoops by the Strap, and gave him a Wound near the Right Ear, of which he languish'd to the 31<sup>st</sup> and then died; and that as *Moor* was carrying down to the Surgeon, he said, *Farewel, farewel;* *Kid has given me my last Blow;* and that he saw him no more till he was dead, which was the next Day, when putting his Thumb upon the Wound he felt the Skull sink under it. The Surgeon depos'd, That when *Moor* was brought down to be drest, he said that *Kid* had given him the Wound, and that *Kid* said that *Moor* was a Rogue and a Villain. He farther said that the Wound was but  
small;

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small, but there was a large Bruise and the Skull fractured; and that was the Cause of his Death. Capt. Kid pleaded that he was coming up within a League of a *Dutch Ship*, and he heard that his Men were mutinying, and said that *Moor* told him that they might take the *Dutch Ship* and plunder her; and he asked him how? and *Moor* told him to get them aboard and then plunder them, and make them give a Certificate that they had received no Damage: Upon which Kid said he told *Moor*, that was a *Judas Trick*, and he would not do it; but that *Moor* replied he always hinder'd their making their Fortunes, and they would go; and thereupon he took up the Bucket and gave him the Blow. But all this was absolutely deny'd by the King's Evidences, and also by one of his own; who all declar'd that what Disturbance there was, was about a Fortnight before, and that the Discourse was about the *Loyal Merchant* and not the *Dutch Ship*. Upon the hearing the Whole the Jury found him Guilty of wilful Murder.

*Darby Mullins*, born near *Marloughfelt* in *Ireland*, about sixteen Miles from *London-Derry*; his Father was a Husbandman, and while he was young he follow'd



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low'd the Plough with his Father, but being Kidnapp'd he was carry'd away into the *West Indies*, where he served a Planter for the space of four Years, and afterwards turned a Waterman, and followed several other Employments in *Jamaica*; and when the Earthquake happen'd there, was miraculously preserved, yet he took then no great Notice of his Deliverance (as he afterwards acknowledged) so as to be thankful to God for it. After the Earthquake he went to *Kingston* in those Parts, and there built him an House and sold Liquors, &c. and afterwards removed with his Family to *New York*, going thither in the Ship *Charity*, Capt. *Simonds* Commander, and staid there two Years, and then took his Passage on board Capt. *Slade* to go to *Maderas*, where having staid but three Weeks he return'd again to *New York*, and there burying his Wife he was oblig'd to leave off House-keeping, and betook himself to fetching and carrying Wood from Place to Place, in a Boat of his own of about 20 Tuns; and that at Capt. *Kid's* coming to *New York* and setting up his Proposals he quitted that Employment and went with him, and afterwards went with Capt. *Cullisford*. He was try'd with Capt. *Kid* for the Facts above-

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above-mention'd and found Guilty, and then was try'd again at the same Time and Place together with *Robert Culliford*, *Nicholas Churchill*, *James How* and *John Eldridge*, for Pyracry and Robbery on the High Sea, about 7 Leagues from the High Land of *St. John's* in the *East Indies*, the 28th of September 1697; for that they did Pyratically rob a *Moorish Ship* called the *Great Mahomet*, which came from *Judea* in the *Red Sea*, and was bound for *Surrat*, taking the Ship and Tackle, value 2000 *l.* 25 Horses, each value 10 *l.* 200 Pounds of Dragon's Blood, 100 Pounds of Saffron, a Chest of Coral, a 100 Pounds of Mastick, 500 Yards of Woollen Cloth, 4000 Ounces of Silver, 8000 Rix Dollars, 250 Bars of Gold, 40 Pounds of Gold Dust, 10000 Chequeens, and divers other great Sums of Money to the Sum of 30303 *l.* *Culliford*, *Churchill*, *How* and *Mullins* pleaded Guilty, but *Eldridge* put himself upon his Tryal. It appeared by the Evidence that Capt. *Culliford* met with one Capt. *Chivers* at Sea, in a Ship called the *Souldado*, where they enter'd into Articles mutually to assist one another, and share the Plunder, but a Storm arising they were separated; but afterwards met again, and saw the Ship *Mahomet* at Sea; upon

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upon which Capt. *Culliford* chased the Ship, and Capt. *Chivers* laid it on board and plunder'd, and shared the Money on board, and each Man's Share came to 500 *l.* but when they came on Shore the Goods were sold and shared, which came to 100 Dollars a Man; and the Evidence was positive that *Eldridge* was in the *Souldado* and had his Share of the Money, and was the Captain's Quarter-Master. But *Eldridge* deny'd the Fact, saying he came to *Madagascar* to trade with the Natives for Goods; but this being positively contradicted by the King's Evidence the Jury found him Guilty.

*Robert Culliford, Nicholas Churchill, James How* and *Darby Mullins*, were indicted a Second time for Pyratically robbing a Ship called the *St. John*, about two Leagues from *Joanna* in the *East Indies*, and taking Goods to the Value of 1079 *l.* To which Indictment they all pleaded Guilty.

Capt. *Culliford*, and *Robert Hickman*, were indicted for Pyratically robbing a Ship called the *Satisfaction*, and taking Goods to the Value of 220 *l.* To which Indictment they pleaded Guilty.

They were a Second time indicted for robbing a *Moorish* Ship about 60 Leagues from *Surrat*, and taking Goods to the Value

## Capt. William Kid, &c. 329

Value of 800 l. to which Indictment they pleaded Guilty.

*Sidney Tailor* was indicted for Pyrat-ically robbing a Ship called the *Floperwell*, about two Leagues from *Cromer* in *Norfolk*, and taking 2000 Pieces of Eight. But the Evidence not being sufficient he was acquitted.

*William Kid*, *Nicholas Churchill*, *James How*, *Gabriel Loffe*, *Hugh Parrot*, *Abel Owen*, *Darby Mullins*, *Robert Hickman* and *John Eldridge* receiv'd Sentence of Death; but *Robert Cullisford* was respited before Judgment, and the rest were all Reprieved after Sentence, except *William Kid* and *Darby Mullins*.

Being under Condemnation and visited by the *Ordinary*, *Capt. Kid* told him he was born in *Scotland*, was about 56 Years of Age; but as for the Crimes for which he was Convicted he would not confess he was Guilty of them, only in the General he owned he had been a great Offender, and lived without any due Regard either to God's Mercies, Judgments, or Wonderful Works, which had often been set before him; never had been mindful to return him Thanks for the many great Deliverances he had received from him, nor call himself to an Account for his Evil Deeds, and there.



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therefore owned that God was a just God, and he had been a vile and a wretched Sinner. He said he repented of his Sins, and hoped he should find Mercy through the Merits of Christ. Being carried to the Place of Execution, when the *Ordinary* came to him, he found him to have drank that Morning after he had left him too freely, and that it had so discomposed his Mind, that (as he said) he was in a very ill Frame, and very unfit for the great Work that was either then or never to be perform'd, and appeared to be much out of Order, and not so much concern'd or affected with his Case or the Duties that were performed as he should be. He would not own the Justice of his Condemnation, nor so much as the Providence of God, who for his Sins had brought him to this untimely End, but spent his Minutes in looking round upon the People, reflecting upon one and another, laying the Faults upon his Ship's Crew, as if they had oblig'd him to the Commission of the Facts, bidding all Masters of Ships to take Warning by him, and be very cautious of putting Confidence in their Men, and was turn'd off in a seemingly very ill Condition to launch into Eternity. But it happen'd that after he had been

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been hanging about the Space of seven Minutes, the Rope broke and he fell to the Ground, but was immediately taken up, was alive, and soon became sensible, and indeed appeared much soberer than when he was turned off; and waiting some time while another Rope was procured, the rest of his Fellow-Sufferers who were turned off with him then hanging by him, it seemed to work something of Sensibleness in him, and the Ordinary desiring to go to him again, says he found him in much better Temper than before; and the Ladder being then set for him to go up, because the Scaffold had before been broken down, he assisted him again with pious Exhortations for the remaining Moments that seemed to be providentially allotted him, standing with Kid upon the Ladder, where he express'd himself more sensibly as to the Sense of his Sins, his Repentance and Faith, than he had done before, and then after having pray'd with him again he was turn'd off.

*Darby Mullins* being visited by the Ordinary after Condemnation, seemed to show a greater Sense of his Condition, but being unlearned was very ignorant of Religion, and said, that he when he engaged in those Practices did not know  
but

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but that it was very lawful (as he had been told) to plunder Ships and Goods, & that belong'd to the Enemies of Christianity. But being made sensible of his Mistake, he said he heartily begged Pardon of God and the World for it, and wish'd he had not been such an Offender. He confessed he had been a great Sinner, in that he had not served God as he should have done, but had of late very much given himself up to Swearing, Cursing, Profaning the Sabbath, &c. which he then acknowledged had brought that Calamity upon him, and behav'd himself with a great deal of seeming Penitence. He was Executed at *Execution-Dock* the 23d of *May* 1707, with Capt. *Kid*, *John Dubois* and *Peter Mingueneau*, condemn'd for Pyracy the *October* before. And *Kid* was afterwards hang'd in Chains on the Bank of the River of *Thames*.

## The LIFE, TRYAL, &amp;c.

O F

Charles Moor.

CHARLES MOOR, was indicted for stealing divers Books to a considerable Value, and a Silver Seal from Sir John Buckworth, on the 1st of September 1707. The Evidence depos'd, That about six a Clock in the Morning the Window of Sir John's Study was broken open and the Things stolen. Other Evidences deposed, That the Prisoner was seen to take Water between four and five a Clock in the Morning at Morilack for London, and was observed to have a Bundle with him. A Bookseller deposed, That he bought some Books of the said Moor, which were proved to be Sir John Buckworth's. The Prisoner not being able to give any good Account how he came by them, the Jury found him Guilty of the Felony, but acquitted him of the Burglary. But a Record  
being



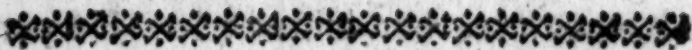
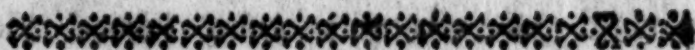
being produced in Court, which proved that *Moor* had before received the the Benefit of the Clergy, and was an Old Offender, and had several times broken Prison. He was denied the Benefit of the late Act of Parliament, and received Sentence of Death for the Fact.

After Condemnation being visited by the Ordinary, he acknowledged the Fact, and also many others; but he would not discover any of his Accomplices that were concern'd with him therein; telling the Ordinary, *He would bring no Man into Trouble now, but that if he had known it should have gone so hard with him, at his Tryal, perhaps he would have brought in one or two for Fancy sake.* He added, there were some Persons he knew had formed a Design to rob a certain House in the Country, at a certain Time, which he mentioned, saying, it might be prevented, if the Person of the House was made acquainted with it beforehand, but would not discover who they were that were to commit the Robbery; but this was but some few Hours before it was to be done, and the House at a pretty distance from London, so that there was  
scarcely

scarce time left to acquaint the Gentleman of it, that he might provide against it. But such Care was taken that it was prevented. However he remained very refractory and obstinate; and when any Person would speak to him and press him to a Confession, he would fall into a Passion, and mutter and maunder so that no body could tell what he said or meant, and his Heart was so hardened and seasoned in Wickedness that no Good could be wrought upon him. He owned indeed in the General, That he had been a great Sinner, and that he might if he would have lived very well, by following the Sailors Profession, or the Business of a Gardener or a Nursery-Man, both which he understood and had been long employ'd in, and particularly the former. He confessed they did not design to rob Sir *John Buchworth's* House but another, but mistook it. He persisted in his Obstinacy of making no Discovery; and it is very probable both he and *William Elby* might animate one another to this Obstinacy. And when he came to the Place of Execution was in the same Temper, and reflected

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reflected upon the Severity of his Sentence, though he owned, that he was sensible God (in his infinite Justice) had appointed this Death for him for his great Sins. He was Executed at Tyburn the 13th of September 1707, being about 34 Years of Age.



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*The* LIFE, TRYAL, &c.  
O F  
*Roger Lowen.*

**R** OGER LOWEN, a *German*, about 40 Years of Age, born at *Hannover*, brought up in the Profession of the *Lutheran Church*; his Mother being a *German* and his Father an *Englishman*, who was Huntsman to the Duke of *Zell*, who sent him (the said *Roger Lowen*) into *France* to learn his Exercises at his Highness's Charge, and afterwards made him his Gentleman of the Querry.

He was indicted for the Murder of Mr. *Richard Lloyd* of *Aston*, the 20th of *September*, 1706. And being a Foreigner was allowed a Party Jury, and to speak to the Court by an Interpreter. Mrs. *Lloyd*, the Wife of the Deceas'd, deposed, That Mrs. *Lowen*, the Prisoner's Wife, was her Cousin, and had sent to her the Night before the Murder was committed, to desire to speak with her; that accordingly about 7 of the Clock the next Morning she went, and about an Hour after her Husband, the Deceas'd,

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sed, as he was riding to *Alton* about some Business, called upon her at Mr. *Lowen's* House, upon which Mr. *Lowen* invited her Husband to dine with him; her Husband said he must first go to *Alton*, and then home and set up his Horse, and then would walk back thither. That in his Absence Mr. *Lowen* express'd himself with much Uneasiness for fear her Husband should not come; upon which she told him, that he would certainly come according to his Promise, if it did not Rain much, and accordingly soon after 12 a Clock her Husband came, and was introduced into the Parlour by Mr. *Lowen* with the greatest seeming Civility, where the Prisoner set down his Sword and Cane in a Corner of the Room; and Dinner not being ready gave them an Invitation to walk in the Garden to see his Plants; that having walked about half an Hour they went back into the House, and Mr. *Lowen* spoke to his Wife concerning Dinner, sending her into the Kitchen to hasten it, and the Prisoner, the Deceas'd and herself going into the Parlour, and that being there Mr. *Lowen* took her Husband's Sword, and drew it a little way out, and praised it and ask'd who was his Cutler, by which she imagined he wanted to buy a new one.

one. That her Husband not suspecting any thing, there being not the least sign of Anger in the Prisoner, nor ever having been any difference between them, stood looking up the Cause-way with his Hands behind him, when Mr. *Lowen* on a sudden drew the Sword quite out of the Scabbard, and gave a Stamp with his Foot and ran the Sword into her Husband's Body just upon the Right Pap; she immediately crying out Murder, clap'd hold of the Sword to disengage it from her Husband's Body, and struggling with Mr. *Lowen*, got it out, but he drew it through her Hands, cutting her Finger to the Bone, and gave her Husband another Stab in the Arm. That then her Husband casting up his Eyes went out of Doors to lean upon a Rail, she following him crying out Murther, and saying speak to me, My Dear, but he only held up his Hands but could not speak; she getting some Help, got him into the House, where he having fetch'd two Groans immediately expired. That in the interim Justice *Hamly* accidentally coming by, she inform'd him of the Fact, saying that a Villain had murder'd her Husband. Justice *Hamly* and other Evidences deposed, That the Prisoner being examined

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owned the Fact, and that he had design'd to have done it before, and that all the Concern he then had was, that he was afraid he had not killed him. The Reason he gave was, that the Deceased had been too familiar with his Wife, and did often tread upon his Corns, giving him no other Satisfaction than to beg his Pardon for it. That he had been informed, that in his Absence his Wife lived in great Splendour, kept a great Equipage, a Coach, Chariot, Footman, &c. which was depos'd to be all false. The Prisoner upon his Tryal pleaded, that when he went out of *England*, which was about 9 Years before, he had importun'd his Wife to go with him, and that she had refused, and that he had come over to fetch her, and that Mr. *Lloyd* had called him several Names (but could not tell what they were) had often trod upon his Corns, &c. and produc'd some Persons who endeavour'd to excuse the Fact, by saying that Distraction had been incident to his Family, and that they had often observed him to be much discontented, &c. But the Jury disregarding those trifling Allegations, the Matter of Fact being so plainly proved upon, found him Guilty of Wilful Murder, and on the Statute of Stabbing,  
and

and on the Coroner's Inquest; for which he received Sentence to die accordingly.

While he lay under Sentence, being visited by Mr. *Ruperti* and Mr. *Idzardi*, two *German* Divines, and the *Ordinary*, he discover'd great Signs of Penitence; confessing, That he had not lived according to that Knowledge he had in Religion; that like many other Gentlemen, who mind nothing but the Pleasures of this present Life, he had been very loose and extravagant; owned the Commission of the Fact, acknowledging it to be a very base and barbarous Crime; and that his Jealousy of his Wife that had been the Occasion of it, was unreasonable and groundless. He heartily begg'd God would graciously be pleased to forgive him this crying Sin, and all his former wicked Acts of Pride, Lewdness and Debauchery; all the Errors, Follies and Vices of his mispent Life, and his Neglect of Religious Duties; and heartily begg'd Pardon of all whom he had in any sort offended, and sent a Letter to beg the Pardon of Mrs. *Lloyd*, the Deceased's Wife: In answer to which, before his Execution, she shew'd so much Christianity as to send him an Answer, That she did forgive him, and pray'd that God would do so too. And being



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being carried to the Place of Execution, he deliver'd his Last Dying Speech to the Ordinary, written in the German Tongue, which is as follows; and was Executed at Turnham-Green, Octob. 25. 1706.

### THE SPEECH.

**I**T is already known to the World for what Reason I am now brought to this Place, and am to suffer this shameful Death, viz. for my having shed innocent Blood. I do acknowledge the Fact, and confess my Fault, and rest satisfied of the just Sentence past upon me; it being agreeable to the Laws of the Land, and the Command of God, That *Whosoever sheddeth Man's Blood, by Man shall his Blood be shed, for God has made Man after his own Image.* I was born of honest and Christian Parents; my Father was an *Englishman*, and my Mother a *German*: I was Educated from my Youth in the Protestant Religion. I declare before God and Man, That I always had an Abhorrence and Aversion to Actions of this kind, and have taken great care in all the Course of my Life to avoid them: And tho' I often had the opportunity of taking away the Life of my Adversaries in ungodly Duels and Quarrels; yet, I  
take

take God to Witness, as a dying Man, I never was guilty of any Murther before this, for which I justly suffer. I am therefore the more grieved now, that I have been moved to so great a Passion, as to study Revenge, by the Instigation of the Devil and sinful Jealousy, which made me think (as I was persuaded by Mr. *Cru-ssus*) that my Wife was married in my Absence with the Deceased. This is the unhappy thing that brought me to the Commision of this horrid Sin, which I heartily bewail with Tears; and I do submit to my just Punishment. I am deeply sensible how greatly I have offended Almighty God; and therefore humbly implore his Pardon and Forgiveness, and that my Sinful Soul may be washed from my Sins in the *Blood of Sprinkling*, that precious Bloodshed by my Redeemer, *which speaks better things than the Blood of Abel*: And having the Promises from the Word of God, and his own Oath, That *whensoever a Sinner truly repents and turns to him, he is willing to receive him and to forgive him*, herein is the only Hope and Comfort of my departing Soul. I likewise humbly beg the Pardon of her Most gracious Majesty Queen *ANN* (whom God bless) and publickly ask Pardon of the Widow of the Deceased Mr. *Lloyd*, as I have

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have done already by a Letter which I have left unsealed with Mr. *Rap*, Minister at the *Savoy*, &c. to send it to her, hoping she will (as a Christian) forgive me, as we all hope for Mercy and Forgiveness from God, thro' the Blood of *Christ*. In like manner I ask Pardon of my dear Wife, which has been many ways injured by this sad Occasion; and I sincerely declare that I am fully satisfied of her Innocence, and that I was jealous without a Cause; And I do not in any Respect ascribe to her the Cause of my Misfortune. I truly love her, and assure the World that I have never been marry'd to any other Woman; and I pray heartily for her Prosperity and Happiness both of Soul and Body. Lastly, I desire all good People for God's sake earnestly to pray for the Salvation of my poor Soul; and I exhort all to take Warning by my sad Misfortune, That they would not give way to *Jealousy*, *Anger*, *Revenge*, or such like Passions; but resist the *Temptations* of the *Devil*, the *World* and the *Flesh*, with constant and devout Prayer to God, and forgive their Enemies, and pray for them. All which I heartily and sincerely do, as I hope God will forgive me for *Christ's* sake.

ROGER LOWEN.

*The End of the Second Volume.*

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